THE

North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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LATEST MAIL DATES.

England,	April	14	Hankow,	May	21
San Francisco	„	23	Yokohama,	„	15
Hongkong,	May	20	Nagasaki,	„	17
Tientsin,	„	20	Foochow,	„	19

Shanghai mail advices of 29th March were received in London on the 3rd May.

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The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, SATURDAY, 25 MAY, 1889.

THE returns of trade for the first quarter of 1889 shew an unpleasantly marked reaction from the prosperity that we have been recording in our notices of the last annual gazette. At this time last year, when examining the returns for the first quarter of 1888, we had the satisfaction of saying that of the nineteen Chinese treaty ports only five shewed a falling off, while fourteen gave a larger revenue than in 1887; this year the conditions are reversed; five ports, Tientsin, Ichang, Hankow, Wênchow, and Tamsui did a little better this year than in 1888; the other fourteen shew considerable deficits, the following being the comparative figures; and it will be seen that the depression extends to one of the two southern stations, which are ports, but not treaty ports. The total deficit is no less a sum than Tls. 577,777, or about 12½ per cent.

REPORT OF DUES AND DUTIES, JANUARY-MARCH QUARTER, 1889; CHINESE TREATY PORTS.

	1889.	1888.
Newchwang...Tls.	15,987	Tls. 25,030
Tientsin	71,464	 59,495
Chefoo.....	57,523	 70,959
Ichang.....	31,497	 29,996
Hankow	199,438	 189,529
Kiukiang.....	109,187	 114,293
Wuhu	125,330	 127,482
Chinkiang	128,355	 170,375
Shanghai.....	1,244,787	1,507,819
Ningpo	193,623	 215,184
Wênchow	8,378	 6,234
Foochow.....	220,693	 289,502
Tamsui	68,720	 66,645
Takow	119,213	 120,242
Amoy	239,127	 269,382
Swatow	343,626	 355,447
Canton.....	494,133	 590,950
Kiungchow.....	52,528	 59,207
Pakhoi.....	70,288	 81,897
Total...Tls.	3,793,897	Tls. 4,349,668

AND FOR KOWLOON AND LAPPA.

	1889.	1888.
Kowloon .....Tls.	141,144	Tls. 165,502
Lappa	104,155	 101,803
Total ... Tls.	245,299	... Tls. 267,305

Of the five fortunate treaty ports, Tientsin shews an advance all round, except in opium likin and tonnage dues, but its total revenue was still less than in the same quarter of 1887. The trifling advance in Ichang was mainly due to an increase in the transit dues, but it is satisfactory that the large advance made in 1888 over 1887 was more than maintained. In Hankow the gain was in the export duty, and here also the improvement was continuous. In Wênchow the improvement was universal, but three-fourths of the revenue collected at that port are derived from opium duty and likin. The small gain in Tamsui was entirely due to opium duty and likin, the other heads of revenue all shewing a falling-off. In Newchwang there was a decline under every head of revenue except import duty, which is only a *bagatelle* at any time, export duty being the principal culprit, owing to the falling-off in the export of beans and beancake. A considerable quantity of these products, which was actually shipped in March last, was shut out of vessels driven to sea by the ice when the port closed in 1888, but having paid duty in that year was included in the December quarter returns. The only improvement in Chefoo was in the import duty, which is not a serious item, most of Chefoo's imports paying duty in Shanghai, and the table of imports shews an almost universal decline. Most of Chefoo's products fell off very seriously, raw silks and mottled braid being happy exceptions. In Kiukiang the deficiency was in export duty and transit dues. The import business was brisk, but there was a decline in the staple exports, paper and tea, against an improvement in tobacco. In Wuhu there was a heavy decrease in opium duty and likin, but it was nearly made up by the increase in the export duty. The general import business of Wuhu was very good during the quarter, and there was a large increase in the export of rice, which recovered from 145,000 piculs in 1887 to 405,000 in 1888. Chinkiang followed Wuhu in the deficiency being due to the reduced import of opium, for the general business was well maintained. In Shanghai there was a slight improvement in the export duty, but the import of opium fell off somewhat, and general imports very considerably. In cotton and woollen piece-goods there was a very general decline, which extended to kerosene oil; while the import of the principal metals was much larger than in 1887. The export of silk and tea was considerably less. In Ningpo opium did its best to make up for the heavy decline in the export duty. The import business was fully up to the average, but the export of the staples, raw cotton, rush hats, and green tea, declined enormously. The deficit in Foochow is to be attributed

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almost entirely to the falling-off in the export of tea, of which only 13,000 piculs paid duty in 1889 against 38,000 piculs in 1888. There was also an enormous decrease in the export of timber planks. In Takow there was a large decrease in the export duty received, nearly balanced by the improvement in the opium duty and likin. The general import and export business was good, but the export of brown sugar fell off from 292,000 piculs in 1888 to 198,000 in 1889. The export duty and the opium duty and likin fell off in Amoy, Oolong tea and brown sugar both shewing a decline. The import business of Amoy was generally good. In Swatow there was a decline under all heads except export and coast trade duties. There was a general falling-off in the import of opium and cotton and woollen piece-goods; and an improvement in the export of sugar, molasses, and samshu. The only improvement in Canton was under coast trade duty: there was a general falling-off in imports, and in the export of matting, preserves, silk, sugar and tea. In Kiungchow the export duty improved, but opium duty and likin declined; the import business was fairly good, and the export of pigs and of sugar recovered a little, but that of eggs was considerably below the average. The export duty and the opium duty fell off at Pakhoi, but the import of cotton goods and metals shewed a fair advance. Exports generally were larger, with the exception of indigo and tin. In Kowloon the deficit was almost entirely in opium duty and likin; while in Lappa (Macao) the changes were unimportant. In the quarterly returns the Commissioners of Customs give us only figures without comment, and all we have done is to summarise these figures.

Summary of News.

A mail leaves on Tuesday morning for Europe, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Sutlej*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

[BY EASTERN EXTENSION A. AND C. TEL. CO.] (THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY.)

THE PROPOSED MILITARY ORGANISATION.

London, 17th May.

The report of the Royal Commission on military organisation proposes as a minimum an army of 110,000 men, a landwehr of 50,000 men, and a reserve with personal service for all men, except clerics, of from twenty to forty. The period of service is to be eight years in the army, five years in the landwehr and seven years in the reserve.

DISQUIET IN RUSSIA.

London, 21st May.

Hundreds have been arrested in Russia, including officers in the army, in connection with a plot against the Czar.

BETTER LATE THAN NEVER.

The English Government have abandoned the Bill for carrying out the Sugar Bounties Convention.

AN EXPLANATION.

London, 22nd May.

The announcement of the abandonment of the Sugar Bounties Bill was premature.

BRITISH NAVAL DEFENCE.

The House of Commons has finally passed the Budget for Naval Defence.

THE ROYAL FAMILY.

The Princess Beatrice has a son.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE N.-C. DAILY NEWS. [PER IMPERIAL CHINESE TELEGRAPHS].

CONTRETEMPS AT TIENTSIN.

Tientsin, 18th May.

The mat shed stables were burnt to-day during the Race tiffin. Nobody was hurt, and the ponies were saved.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT CARNOT.

Paris, 5th May.

An attempt to assassinate the President of the Republic was made as he was leaving the Elysée for Versailles to attend the Centennial celebration. The assassin fired a pistol at the President, but did not hit him. The assassin was arrested.

THE PARIS EXHIBITION.

6th May.

The fête of the 6th May, on the occasion of the opening of the Exhibition, has taken place. It was a great success. The President was received with indescribable enthusiasm.

DUTIES IN INDO-CHINA.

8th May.

The Council of State has approved the increase of Customs duties in Indo-China on piece goods only.—*Havas.*

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

1889.		Fahr. Thermometer. Min.	Max.	Rainfall in inches.
May	18	56°.4	64°.6	trace.
,,	19	53°.5	76°.6	.....
,,	20	56°.5	77°.	.....
,,	21	58°.	64°.3	0.21
,,	22	60°.	80°.	.....
,,	23	58°.2	85°.	.....
,,	24	60°.	85°.	.....

1888.		Min.	Max.	Rainfall in inches.
May	18	66°.	84°.5	.....
,,	19	63°.5	86°.	.....
,,	20	67°.	74°.	.....
,,	21	54°.	59°.	0.71
,,	22	53°.	75°.5	.....
,,	23	54°.	79°.5	.....
,,	24	58°.	84°.	.....

The following telegram was received on Thursday by the Committee of the North-China Famine Relief Fund:—

"From Lord Mayor to Shanghai Relief Committee. London, 21st May. £850 more remitted to-day, may still be small sum to send before closing. Am requested by the London Committee to tender your Committee, the various local Committees, the missionaries and all who have aided work of distribution their sincere and hearty thanks for most valuable services. Any printed details of relief operations valuable for our report later on."

We are glad to see that the Lord Mayor's Committee has made this prompt acknowledgment of the devoted efforts of the missionaries.

Mr. E. G. Vouillemont received on Sunday morning telegraphic information from M. Denormandie, that the subscription to the Comptoir National has been a complete success, and that the new bank will be in working order by the end of this month.

H.E. Hsieh, formerly Taotai at Ningpo, has been appointed Minister for China to Great Britain.

The *Moyune* left Hankow on Friday night, and should pass Woosung at about 7 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Dr. Edkins delivered a very interesting lecture on Thursday evening on "Ancient Symbolism" before the Shanghai Young Men's Christian Association, and we propose to print a report of it in our next issue.

Yesterday being the anniversary of Queen Victoria's birthday, the men-of-war displayed an extra quantity of bunting. Besides these, the German mail steamer *Neckar*, the Japanese mail boat *Tokio Maru*, the Customs cruiser *Ping Ching*, the Danish Telegraph steamer *Store Nordiske*, and the Chinese steamer *Smith* were gay with bunting, but the French mail boat *Natal* apparently has no spare flags, for she only flew her everyday ensign. On shore the Consulates flew their holiday flags and the German Club and some residents hung out the English ensign, while the P. & O. Co.'s flagstaff was in a similar condition to Mother Hubbard's cupboard. The British Consulate flagstaff and grounds were decorated with lanterns last night.

In honour of Her Majesty's birthday, a dinner was given at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General last night. The following were invited:—The Taotai, the Shanghai Magistrate and the Mixed Court Magistrate, the Diplomatic and Consular Representatives of Foreign Powers, the Chief Justice, Assistant Judge and Crown Advocate, Captain Nesham, R.N., Senior Naval Officer, H.M.S. *Satellite*, and the Commanders of H.M.'s ships *Firebrand* and *Merlin*, Mr. Consul Ford, Messrs. McKean and Bredon, Commissioners of Customs, Mr. Vice-Consul Carles, Mr. Vice-Consul Brown, Mr. F. J. Marshall, H.M.'s Surveyor of Works, the Chairman of the Municipal Council, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. W. S. Ayrton and the Taotai's interpreter. During dinner the Band under the direction of Chevalier Vela played the following selection of music:—

1.—Grand March 21st June, 1887.. M. Vela.
2.—Quadrille—Merry England .....Williams
3.—Overture—Maritana .....Wallace.
4.—Grand National Fantasia .....Kappey.
5.—Waltz—My Queen.....Godfrey.
6.—Fantasia—Irish Melodies.. .....Maanen.
7.—Grand Selection—Iolanthe .....Sullivan.
8.—Waltz—Venetia .....Lowthian.
9.—God Save the Queen!

On the 22nd instant two old China hands passed over to the great majority. Both were seafaring men, one being Mr. Thomas Forrest, who came out to China in 1855. The other was Captain Charles Brown, who arrived at Shanghai about 1857 in the *Daring*. Captain Brown was engaged during the time the Taipings held Ningpo in command of the *Ruby*, a lorcha schooner sailing between Shanghai and Ningpo, and for twenty-one years he was master of a lorcha sailing on the Yangtze. At his funeral yesterday morning six of those who carried the coffin to the grave had been from twenty to thirty-three years,—the average being thirty years—from home, while the Minister who conducted the service, the Ven. Archdeacon Moule, came out to China first in 1861.

We understand that Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. have applied for a rehearing of the suit brought against them by Mr. Woug Chun-kee, which was heard by Mr. J. C. Hall on the 11th instant. The re-hearing will take place on Tuesday next before Sir Richard T. Rennie, Chief Judge, and Mr. R. A. Mowat, Assistant Judge, of H.M.'s Supreme Court.

Mrs. Wetmore, president of the ladies' committee of the Margaret Williamson Memorial Hospital, acknowledges with grateful thanks the receipt from Mr. F. G. White of London of Tls. 100, a donation by him to the funds of that institution.

The *Satellite* "Lunars" and the Shanghai Municipal Police "Snowdrops" gave a nice little entertainment at the Council Board Room on Thursday evening to a full house. The orchestra consisted of eight instruments and the players did very well.

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The vocal portion of the programme consisted of some eleven items, which were negotiated in such a manner that the conclusion of each was greeted with great applause. After this came refreshments on the grass-plot, and then the second part of the programme opened with an overture by the orchestra and was followed by Mr. Walker with a song "The Bugler" which was exceedingly well sung and was loudly applauded. The Walking Champions, Messrs. Moore and Rattray, created much amusement with their walk, songs and dances, as did Professor Phillipp's speech. Messrs. Baker and Bishop gave a banjo duet and Mr. Goble a song. These were followed by Messrs. Duke and Downer who sang "Mr. and Mrs. Brown," their voices blending pleasantly. A flute solo by Mr. Cunningham was much admired, while the comic duet "The Salvationists" was the most successful item of the whole programme. The proceedings concluded with the performers singing "Rule Britannia" and "God save the Queen."

An enquiry was held at the British Consulate-General on the 17th instant by Mr. George Brown, H.M.'s Vice-Consul, into the death at sea on the 4th instant of Mr. Richard Ferrie, Chief Engineer of the steamer *Glenogle*. It appeared from the evidence that Mr. Ferrie was quite well at 1 p.m. on the day named, that he had a stroke of apoplexy during the afternoon, and was attended by the ship's doctor, Dr. Forsyth, but did not recover consciousness and died about 7.30 p.m. Dr. Forsyth in his evidence said :—"The Captain asked my opinion as to whether it would be possible to carry the body to Shanghai, but in view of the fact that decomposition had rapidly set in and that we were still three days from Shanghai, I strongly advised against such a course. There was nothing in the shape of an hermetical coffin on board." The finding of Mr. George Brown as to the cause of death was in accordance with the evidence, and it was added that every possible care and attention were shewn to the deceased from the time when the illness commenced until his death.

Mr. George Brown, H.M.'s Vice-Consul, held an enquiry at the British Consulate-General on the 20th instant into the death of Julius Petterson, an able seaman on the steamer *Cambodia*, which occurred at sea near the Saddle Islands on the 13th instant. It appeared from the evidence that the deceased had been set to scrub the half-round, and was supplied with a gasket to make himself fast, which however he neglected to use. Suddenly he was seen to be overboard; the steamer was stopped and her engines reversed, a life-buoy was thrown to him and a boat was lowered. The steamer went back to the spot where he was last seen, and the boat cruised round for about an hour, but though his cap and the life-buoy were picked up, the missing man was not seen again. The finding was in accordance with the evidence, Mr. Brown adding that "the master, officers and crew seem to have done all in their power to save the deceased, and no blame is imputed to any of them."

We hear of an instance of quick work on the part of the Chinese Telegraph Service. A message was despatched to Hankow at 9.15 a.m. on Wednesday, and the answer to it received at 11.40 a.m.

The sixth annual report of the Soochow Hospital, which has been kindly sent to us, is mainly taken up with statistics and observations on opium smoking, based on the patients treated at the opium refuge, and in the dispensary practice. It is a remarkable thing that while patients who come to the missionaries suffer abominably when deprived of opium, criminals who get into gaol in Hongkong and have their opium stopped, do not suffer at all. But the Soochow Hospital devotes itself also with success to general medical and surgical relief, as the report shews. The total receipts for the year 1888, which began with a balance of $23.41, were $1,928.70½, and the year closed with a balance in hand of $12.87.

We have received from Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Limited, Yokohama, a copy of Keeling's Guide to Japan, 4th edition, revised and enlarged by A. Farsari. It is a handy little book of 164 pages, with index, that could be carried in the pocket without inconvenience in the hottest weather, and must be invaluable to every tourist in Japan. It contains a number of routes of varying durations, with descriptions of the principal places worth visiting and of the sights that should not be missed and the legends, etc., connected with them. There is some general information about the empire, a chronology, list of religious festivals, weights and measures, distances, etc., etc., and hints for tourists, and ten well-executed maps and plans. The tourist who is going to Japan should read it before he goes, and keep it in his pocket while he is there, and the unfortunate even who cannot go will gain pleasure and information in reading it. It might fairly take as its motto, "infinite riches in a little room."

Reuter's announcement to-day that he was premature in reporting the abandonment of the Sugar Bounties Bill is a little irritating. The second telegram we take to mean that the Budget is passed as well as the Naval Defence bill; the son that has been born to the Princess Beatrice will be a welcome birthday present to its royal grandmother.

The native Life Saving Association at Minghong found the body of a coloured man floating in the river last Thursday near that town. The body was dressed in a black woollen coat, and it was afterwards coffined by a benevolent institution.

We are informed that three Chinamen attacked a Japanese in Boone Road at 8.30 p.m. on Sunday. The Japanese had come out of an alley way in Boone Road partially drunk, and one of the three men called to him in Japanese. The Japanese went up an alley way with the man who called him and while there, one of the three placed his hand over the mouth of the Japanese, while the other two took his watch and chain and his ring. The three then decamped. So far as we are aware, the victim made no complaint at the Police Station.

A small menagerie consisting of two deer, a bear, three storks, an owl, and a tortoise, arrived here on Sunday by the *Fuyeu*. The animals are from Corea and are to be forwarded to Hamburg for the Zoological Gardens there.

The *Anchises* arrived at Hankow on the 15th at 8 p.m., and the *Glamorganshire* passed Kiukiang on the 16th at 1.30 p.m. The *Kiangfoo* passed the *Glenartney* at Olyphant Island at 4 p.m. on the same day, and the *Moskwa* at anchor on the Langshan at 7.30 p.m. on the 18th, and the *Orestes* off Lao Point on Sunday morning.

The *Benledi*, from Hongkong, arrived at Hankow on Thursday morning, having made a fine passage. She left Hongkong on the 17th, so the whole voyage was done in six days.

The steamer *Crusader*, having been purchased by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, is now called the *Tsukushi Maru* and is commanded by Captain Will, an old employé of the same Company.

Our attention has been called to a pamphlet, in private circulation, on the present trouble with the medium of exchange, in which the writer argues that one standard of value for the West and another for the East cannot continue in these days of widespread and intimate commercial relations. "Either the gold-using peoples will adopt the silver standard; or the silver-using peoples adopt the gold standard; or the world adopt bimetallism." We observe, too that the *London and China Express* of March 29th quotes Sir David Barbour, the Financial Secretary of India, as saying, "The present condition is not one of permanent equilibrium. Either there will be continuous progress in the direction of demonetising silver and substituting gold, or the world will revert to the old system of double legal tender." The question is of grave and immediate importance to all in China and Japan, as well as in India; but what we can do here in the matter is not obvious. The bimetallists have been assisted lately by the depression of trade, which they have constantly attributed to the appreciation of gold. Unfortunately for them, trade is reviving, although the value of gold is not falling, and this tends to contradict their best argument. There is no question that the decline in exchange has promoted the export trade in China, and it is noticeable that the Chinese seem to be able, in the prices they pay for imports, to follow the rise in gold, at least in the staple articles.

There was some idea that with the ratification of the opium clause in the Chefoo convention the work of the Society for the Suppression of the Opium Trade had come to an end, but a perusal of the April number of the *Friend of China* will quite dispel the illusion. A more red hot number has never been published. From cover to cover it is full of denunciations and misrepresentations. When facts are not bad enough, hypotheses are made to serve. It is a remarkable thing that the missionaries who have been engaged in famine relief have laid no blame of any kind on opium, but the writer of "China and her Trouble" knows better than they do. "We doubt not," he says, "that in addition to the terrible pangs of hunger, myriads of poor wretches have to combat with the still more painful cravings for the drug to which they have been long accustomed." Having invented this suffering, he goes on to use it as an argument that the British tax-payer ought to relieve the distress in China. "Has the British-Indian government no duty devolving upon it in these trying times in alleviating distress, which has been fearfully aggravated by its unholy trade in opium?" One Alfred S. Dyer of Bombay writes an article in which we find such sentences as this; "It has repeatedly occurred in the history of British rule in India, that millions of pounds of revenue obtained by cunning and threats and bloodshed have been more than swept away by the cost of preventible panics, wars and famines," and the editor of the *Friend of China* is so pleased with the article that he prints a portion of it again on another page as an extract from the *Banner of Asia*. The article by Archdeacon Wolfe of the C.M.S. is equally temperate. "The devil," he says, "could not have invented a more pernicious vice for the destruction of soul and body than this of opium smoking, and woe to the man who by word or deed gives any support or encouragement to the hell-born traffic"! Mr. Donald Matheson writes; "We are sending thousands of pounds to save the millions in China now dying of famine, but we have withheld our sympathy for the millions more, dying year by year in increasing numbers, from a vice which we have ourselves introduced among them;" thought he must know that, as a historical fact, the British did not introduce opium smoking into China. People who believe that opium smoking is a curse to China are as much justified in organising a crusade against it, as the teetotallers are in crusading against alcohol; but all sober-minded people must be grieved to see the crusade supported by such exaggerations and misrepresentations as we find so plentifully in this issue of the *Friend of China*.

At a meeting held at the London office of the P. & O. Company on the 11th ultimo, the formation of the proposed China Association was definitely decided upon. Sir Geo. Bowen, Sir R. Jardine, Sir A. Dent, Sir Thos. Wade, and Messrs. F. D. Barnes, T. Sutherland, M.P., P. A. Myburgh, Q.C., J. Swire, J. Whittall, A. Coxon, E. F. Duncanson, Albert Deacon,

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Thos. Hanbury, J. Holliday, S. Ezekiel, J. H. Gwyther, C. L. Grant, E. Iveson, T. Jackson, W. Keswick, C. Lucas, D. McLean, and J. A. Maitland, were elected as the first general committee, with power to elect their own chairman, executive committee, honorary secretary, and other officers for the first year, and to draft and adopt a code of bye-laws and regulations which shall be binding on the members of the Association.

According to the Reuter's telegram published in the Singapore papers the shot fired at President Carnot was only a blank cartridge, the firer being anxious to call attention to certain wrongs he had suffered. The telegram *re* Mr. Parnell contains the additional information that the account books of the League have disappeared. The telegram in reference to the opening of the Paris Exhibition mentions that on the 5th President Carnot unveiled a tablet at Versailles marking the opening of the States General in 1789, with an eloquent speech in which he said that France has now finally broken one man power : an obvious hit at Boulangism.

The *Courrier d'Haiphong* states that the Captain of the *Duke of Buckingham*, which had arrived at the Bay of Along from Antwerp and Saigon, blew his brains out the day before the steamer arrived.

We learn from a Paris telegram of the 10th in the *Courrier d'Haiphong* that French Indo-China has undergone another change of governors. M. Piquet is appointed Governor-General ; Colonel Rheinart, Resident-General for Annam and Tongking, and M. Parreau, Resident-Superior at Hanoi, are recalled : M. Hector is appointed Resident-Superior at Hué, and M. Brière at Hanoi ; and the Residents-General are suppressed.

Tongking is losing its bad character as a residence for Europeans. At the latest date there was not a single case of cholera or other epidemic or contagious disease at either Haiphong, Hanoi or Nam-dinh, among Europeans.

H.R.H. Prince Warawan, a brother of the King of Siam and Under-Secretary of State in the Finance Department of Siam, is engaged in translating the "Arabian Night's Entertainments" into Siamese, and is publishing his translation in numbers, extremely well printed and embellished with fair engravings, illustrative of the texts.

The Amoy correspondent of the *Hongkong Telegraph* writes :—There was every appearance at the last performance of Chiarini's Circus of a determined effort to have a disturbance by the roughs of Amoy. Several of these rowdies came with vitriol, and threw some on the tents ; one of the miscreants was caught in the act and got a well-deserved thrashing, but his friends, to make capital out of the incident, made him sham as if he was dead and had him carried about through the dense crowd of Chinese outside the entrance to the tent. Very soon stones commenced to fly about and the Chinese began to shout "ta, ta" and to pull up the bamboo fence, but owing to the action taken by a few Europeans who went among the crowd trying to quiet them, the better part of the Chinese left so as not to be implicated in the row. The American Consul soon put in an appearance, and by the determined stand he took quickly overawed the crowd.

We take the following paragraphs from the Canton correspondence of the *Hongkong Telegraph* :—The Viceroy is so pleased with the electric light in his Yamên, that His Excellency has decided that the reclamation frontage on the southern face of the city shall be lighted by electricity. Another step in the right direction His Excellency has taken of late is to order that a Chinese gunboat daily patrols between Canton and Hongkong to guard against river pirates. Not content only with issuing these orders, His Excellency has instructed the patrol gunboats to telegraph the Yamên as they pass each station on the river. I hear the Chinkiang riots have been settled by the payment of about Tls. 140,000 compensation, of which Mr. Mansfield, the Acting British Consul, who had arrived at his post but a few days before, received some Tls. 26,000. The money did not come out of the Government Treasury. The Taotai of Chinkiang had to find some Tls. 50,000 and has now retired on account of his mother's death ; the Taotai of Shanghai also contributed his quota, and other mandarins were directly or indirectly affected, so it will be a lesson not soon to be forgotten at all events by Chinese officialdom, and will induce them to show somewhat more zeal and promptitude in the suppression of similar risings against foreigners in future.

At an extraordinary meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co., Ld., held in Hongkong on the 18th instant, the resolutions for increasing the capital of the Company were passed *nem. con.*

A representative of the *China Mail* had an interview with Mr. Denny in Hongkong, from which it appears that Mr. Denny went south in order to see Prince Min Yong-ik, and intends returning to Corea. This is no doubt in consequence of Mr. Yuan's not having been recalled by China. Mr. Denny said that he thought that Russia has always to be watched, and he could not say what might happen if China blundered.

The *Daily Press* says that the following telegram has been received by the Punjom Mining Company from Mr. Becher, dated Singapore :—"The latest news from the mines is good. New lodes have been found."

We read in the *Daily Press* that the Burma Ruby Mines Company is sending out a young engineer, a nephew of the late Sir Harry Parkes (formerly British Minister to China), to superintend operations. Mr. R. Gordon, who has already investigated the ruby mines along with Mr. Streeter, jun., and who knows Burma well, will probably come out later for a short time to give his young *confrère* the benefit of his experience, and see him fairly started.

Mr. J. J. Francis, Q.C., of Hongkong, who has lately been on a visit to British North Borneo, gave a lecture on his visit to the Hongkong Literary Society on the 16th. He began by mentioning that the steamer *Memnon*, by which he made the passage, was crowded with Chinese emigrants, who with their tickets were carefully scrutinised by the Registrar General, to see that they were not going ignorantly or against their will. He then described Sandakan, which he said seemed to be now what Hongkong was 40 years ago, except that while Hongkong was then a bare hillside, Sandakan was simply one mass of the most beautiful vegetation imaginable. But the town was still in its earliest stage, there was not a single brick or stone building in the place. There were not 150 houses altogether and these were dotted about the hills in admired disorder. However, he was at a ball the evening after his arrival at which there were thirteen ladies, and in Hongkong in 1850 it was a great feat to muster twenty ladies at a ball. The British North Borneo Company owned about 40,000 square miles of land, nearly all extremely fertile, rich in minerals and watered by large, navigable rivers. Any quantity of land was still to be had at $3 an acre, on which any description of tropical product could be grown, and which made excellent pasturage. Mr. Francis went on to dilate on the merits of Governor Creagh, and the difficulty the government had in dealing with the native races, in a land where life was so easy, that they had little need to work, and wound up by saying that the success of the numerous companies that had lately been started in the colony depended on the men sent to manage them being actuated by principles of law, justice and fair dealing, and who would regard the feelings, the interests and the rights of the coolies and native races.

We learn from the Nagasaki *Rising Sun* that at about 1 o'clock on the morning of the 8th inst., a fire broke out in a drapery store at the corner of Higashi-hamanomachi, and afterwards spread to Nishi-hamanomachi, resulting in the total destruction of 36 houses and 4 godowns, and considerable damage to a number of other houses and godowns in the vicinity, despite the strenuous efforts of the numerous native fire brigades, ably assisted by detachments from the Russian flag-ship *Admiral Nachimoff* and the U.S.S. *Marion*. The houses destroyed included the office of the 18th National Bank, the Jiu-Shei-Sha printing office, Tajiroya's porcelain store, Sasaki's clock store, and other large stores of various descriptions. The total loss sustained is estimated at *yen* 100,000.

The *Hyogo News* translates the following alarming story from the *Shinonome Shimbun* :—On the 9th inst. some person made an offering of 500 candles to the Higashi Honganji in aid of the ceremony that took place when the new temple was completed. Two days afterwards one of these candles was lighted, and almost immediately exploded with a tremendous report, filling the building with smoke and flame. Happily the ceiling was not injured, and the narrow escape that occurred is proved by the fact that the remaining candles turned out to be stuffed with dynamite.

We learn from the *Kobe Herald* that the shark-hunting barque *Wandering Minstrel*, which has been long missing, was wrecked on Midway Island on the 3rd of February, 1888, and the captain and crew rescued on the 17th of March 1889 by the schooner *Norma*, and carried to Honolulu, after suffering severe privations during the 13½ months they passed on this desert island.

The *Japan Herald* says, in reference to the determination to put the *Monocacy* into commission again :—"It seems somewhat of a pity, however, that the decision had not been arrived at a little sooner, as all her stores have been turned over to other ships, her Hotchkiss guns given to the *Marion*, and her rifled guns sent home to the States, all of which causes considerable expense."

A special London telegram to the *Mail and Express* says :—*The Times* intends to pay £5,000 into Court as damages in the Parnell suit. This leaves the Court to decide upon the amount which *The Times* shall pay Parnell, this payment being an acknowledgment of libel and obviating the tedious process to prove it.

Mr. John Albert Bright (Unionist) was elected for the central division of Birmingham by 5,610 votes against 2,560 votes given for the Gladstonian candidate, Mr. P. Beale. At the previous general election the return of the late Mr. John Bright was unopposed.

We take these notes from the Calcutta *Englishman* :—Many absurd rumours have been flying about of late as to the movements of Mr. Hart and the nature of his negotiations with the Chinese Amban, but we believe that nothing is really known on the subject, as owing to the bad weather no communications have for some time been received from Mr. Hart.—News from the Cape says that Lord Carrington, who has proved so popular a Governor in New South Wales, is to succeed Sir Hercules Robinson as Governor of Cape Colony.—Affairs in Afghanistan are very quiet at present. Reports are received from time to time of the Amir's intention of visiting Kandahar, Herat, and other places, but it is more likely that he will remain quietly at Kabul while the work of reorganising Turkistan is being completed.—The authorities in the Andamans have decided to show the world the quality of tea that is grown and manufactured in that settlement, and a small consignment is accordingly being sent to the Paris Exhibition.

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Miscellaneous Articles.

PHOTO-LITHOGRAPHIC PRINTING IN SHANGHAI.

THE printing of Chinese books in Shanghai by lithography is rapidly becoming an extensive branch of trade. The application of the steam engine to this art has rendered it possible to keep four, five or more presses in operation at the same time, and so large an amount of work in the form of printed sheets may be turned out by a single engine, that Chinese capitalists find it profitable to invest money in this enterprise. The cheapness of the books thus produced is a great recommendation in a country where reading is a very common accomplishment. Another advantage is that the beauty of good writing is better preserved on stone than on carved wood. Writers exceptionally competent are employed by the lithographers to write copy as by the wood engravers. But in xylography much of the smooth elegance of curves is sacrificed. Notwithstanding this loss of smoothness in the cutting, professional writers may, when they have established a name, earn four or five taels a day by writing prefaces for new books cut on wood. The preface or other document is pasted on the block and the engraver cuts according to it. In Chinese printing a main object must always be to preserve as far as possible the beauty of writing. Consequently lithographers must pay handsomely the writers who have good natural gifts allied to those of the painter enabling them to impart beauty and proportion to their work. *Poeta nascitur non fit*, and stiff and ugly penmanship such as is too common among Chinese teachers who distort the characters and impart to them an unpleasing peculiarity compensated for by no elegance, has to be carefully avoided.

Many hundreds of Chinese works have already been printed by steam in Shanghai by the lithographic process. There are four or five establishments and the circulation of the books thus produced is being pushed throughout the country. The number of retail shops where they are sold is so great as to show that the demand for books printed in this way is increasing. There is evidently a good prospect for the critical works of the present dynasty, for they occupy a most prominent place in the publishers' circulars. Comments of a critical nature on the Four Books abound and the effect of their circulation is secretly to undermine the Sung dynasty system of thought which pervades the old school books. In the shop lists the productions of modern authors shut out almost completely the works of the 12th and 13th centuries which used to be so famous and still to a large extent retain their prestige. This is of good omen for the progress of knowledge. The largest of these modern comments and collections of comments on the Four Books cost three or four dollars each; one collection of works on the classics consisting of a library of nearly a hundred separate works by authors of the present dynasty is charged thirty-six dollars, but editions cut in wood of the same collection can be had for little more than twenty dollars. It extends to about 100 volumes. This collection was made eighty years ago by Yuen-yuen of Yangchow. The works which compose it breathe the spirit of a new age, a much more critical age than that of Chu-hsi. The present activity of the book trade will tend to the ultimate success of the movement recently initiated against the teaching of the Sung dynasty, and in proportion as the new critical works are extensively read will Chu-hsi and his predecessors of that period decline in authority. There are about twenty-five dictionaries and works on old sounds and old characters in one of these lists. A Kanghsi's dictionary is sold at various prices, from a dollar and sixty cents to three dollars. The character adopted is very small, too small for comfort. Why the demand for characters of such a very small size should have grown up it is difficult to see. Handsomely engraved editions on blocks of this indispensable dictionary at prices varying from three dollars to fifteen are much more useful than these works of such very fine and close printing. The buyers of these lithographed editions are students who have young eyes and read fast. To them broad margins and large type are no advantage and they prefer to have books in portable boxes suited for travelling. All students have to travel and they like to take books with them. Rich book collectors are a numerous class and these cheap works enable them to complete their libraries quickly. Books can be bought in this way which formerly had to be searched for far and near. This trade being wholesale supplies distant provinces, and depôts are established for the sale of lithographed books at the Paternoster Row of Peking known as Liu-li-chang, and especially at Chungking the great commercial emporium of Szechuan. There are also branch establishments in other cities, such as Canton; but the seat of the manufacture is Shanghai. Here it is that printing by steam as by moveable type has been first introduced, and workmen to the number of a hundred or two hundred in one establishment are at the present time engaged. To each press are attached three printers, one above to place the sheet on the cylinder, and two below to receive it when printed. The preparation of the stone, the writing of the text, its reduction in size by photography and various additional processes occupy very many hands. Most of the printing done is extremely small in size and the wonder is that so many persons should be willing to buy what it needs magnifying power to read with comfort. Yet at present these institutions have the appearance of busy prosperity. The paper used is of bamboo and comes from Fukien. The stones come from England and also the presses, but some parts of the processes are French. The attempt to supply school books is not made and it is stated that the purchasers are those who are reading for degrees. This class abounds in every part of China, and Shanghai has advantages over every other city for the development of this trade. It will be still further developed if in future books in clear large type suitable for boys at school should be produced. It will be necessary however to adapt the process to a coarser paper more economical in price than that now used. Probably also too many workmen are employed, requiring the consumption of a large amount of capital. The number of them should be reduced. Not before such improvements as these are made will the lithographic printers be able to compete in cheapness with the old block printing which has been in use in the country for more than nine centuries.

TEA IN HANKOW.

THE month of May brings us not only the Spring Races and the Regattas, but equally the return of that annual event, momentous directly or indirectly to all Europeans in China,—the new Tea Season. Leading articles and Brokers' circulars are written yearly in anticipation of it and, to outsiders who read them it must seem marvellous that tea buyers, more than other men, should need such elaborate printed directions to guide their path, let alone the Cassandra-like warnings which all notices of the kind appear to emulate each other in pouring forth. Judging by the earnestness with which these warnings are reiterated year by year, the China tea buyer is an irreclaimable sinner who ought long since to have met the doom of the hardened reprobate whom neither warning nor misfortune has power to check in his downward course; and none are so severe in their censure as the Chaaszees themselves whose letters appear from time to time in our columns. Yet these same Chaaszees seem to come up smiling after each prophesied discomfiture, and to the outside public their acrimonious discussions often look to be little more than a "plant" to entrap the uninitiated.

Thus far this season, if any reliance can be placed upon the reports we receive from Hankow, never, not even in the palmy days when India and Ceylon where unknown to the tea trade, has competition been so keen and have prices so high been paid. This in the face of a consumption last year in Great Britain of, in round numbers, 100 million pounds of Indian and 80 million pounds of China tea, while this year the Indian and Ceylon gardens together are expected to produce 140 million pounds; this increase, allowing for the same total consumption, being calculated to displace further 40 million pounds of China tea: the consumption at home which for a series of years progressed with "leaps and bounds" appears now to

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have reached its limit of expansion, the increase last year having been only one per cent. over that of 1887; and consequently, as the production will shew another big jump this year, the coming struggle for existence between India and China promises to be of the keenest description and fraught with disaster to one or the other, if not to both. The planters in both countries will eventually doubtless curtail their pickings, but there are no signs of any such curtailment at present On the contrary, the high prices paid for the new leaf in China are sure to stimulate packing for export of all the leaf that the season renders available, while the extensive new plantations in India and Ceylon will yield all their growth until the time comes when home quotations no longer cover the cost of picking and packing. By the time this has taken place its cheapness will have inevitably forced Indian tea into markets where China still rules supreme to this day, such as Russia, America and the Colonies; and what further disastrous effect upon the value of the China growth this additional displacement in its remaining outlets is likely to have, it needs no Cassandra to foretell. Russian and English buyers forcing up prices against each other in China are unwittingly doing their best to kill the trade. That the competition is unavoidable as far as the individual buyer is concerned and even salutary in so far as it encourages the native tea interest, we fully admit; but none the less is it a source of wonderment to the uninitiated outsider when he couples it with the innumerable homilies exhorting reticence and abstention.

In tea, as in many other things however, it is the unexpected that happens. Simultaneously with telegrams announcing a panic in the London market with last season's teas being sold off at sacrifices reaching to as much as fifty per cent., we have new season's teas in China eagerly competed for at prices twenty and thirty per cent. above (what were then quoted as) the dangerously high figures of last year's opening. Although as yet comparatively little, it is said, has been bought for London, yet English buyers have all shared in the scramble. Truly, as the natives say, joss has been kind to the teamen this year so far. Whether he will continue his favour remains to be seen. Much may happen in the future. Consumers may discover that Indian tea is the subtle cause of the nervous irritability which affects the present generation, and so lead to a diminution, if not a discontinuance of its use, in like manner as some years ago, led by certain wiseacres who proclaimed the unfounded fact that green tea was fired in copper pans, the home public suddenly abandoned Hyson for Assam. This and other contingencies are on the cards. The intrinsic goodness of China tea only demands a fair field and no favour, but to possess this it requires to be no longer handicapped with an export duty as against free export in other lands. If this anomaly be not set right, then we can but join the Cassandra crowd and predict that in Great Britain at least, China tea will ere many years have elapsed have utterly ceased to be drunk.

THE RETURNS OF TRADE, 1888.
VI—COREA.

Mr. Merrill, Chief Commissioner of Customs in Corea, is able to write what is decidedly a hopeful report on the trade of that country during 1888. Although the southern provinces suffered from a drought during the summer months, which resulted in a complete failure of the rice crop in some districts, and checked the autumn trade, the total value of the trade that passed through the foreign Custom-houses in 1888 was nearly ten per cent. above that of 1887. Its net value was $3,913,501, of which foreign imports accounted for $3,046,443.

Cotton goods make up nearly two-thirds of the entire importations, and of these grey shirtings and lawns contribute more than four-fifths. Comparatively large as this business was, it was somewhat restricted by the competition of cheap home-made cotton cloth; for the cotton crop in the southern provinces turned out well, and was the only crop that did. Corean taste has evidently forsaken the white shirtings that it once favoured; as Mr. Merrill says, "there is no fixed demand for any particular kind of piece goods; the demand is capricious, raising now one and then another variety into some prominence, at the expense of other varieties." The imports of metals were considerably larger in 1888, the most prominent being copper and spelter, required for the manufacture of *cash*; and after them come silk piece goods, which are derived both from China and Japan, principally the former. In exports, beans took the first place, the trade being stimulated by the failure of the Newchwang crop; and "it is more than ever apparent," says Mr. Merrill, "that beans are to be the staple export of Corea"—not a very promising outlook for foreign commerce. The balance of trade was redressed by the export of gold, the value of which, as recorded by the Customs, was $1,973,965; but, as we have often remarked, probably at least an equal quantity was taken out of the country privately. The general remarks with which Mr. Merrill closes his report are to the point: "The want of cheap and efficient means of transportation between the open ports and the trading places on the coast and in the interior continues to be one of the greatest deterrents to the development of the trade. Corean boats are frail craft, better fitted for smooth inland waters than for coasting traffic; the transportation of cargo in them is hazardous, and at best is effected in such uncertain length of time as to upset all calculations as to profit. Small schooners and strong sea-going junks of Chinese and Japanese patterns would doubtless greatly develop the coastwise traffic; and it is probable that a few small steamers, properly managed, might, after a period of unprofitable work at the outset, be run with advantage between the treaty ports and the more important unopened harbours on the coast." In fact, both China and Corea have much to learn from Japan—who actually owes her civilisation originally to them—as to the possibilities and advantages of coasting traffic by steamers. Mr. Merrill adds that nothing was done in 1888 to develop the mineral resources of the country, but once more a mining engineer has been imported, who is to survey and report to the government on the subject.

Passing from the general *conspectus* to the reports of the local commissioners, we find Mr. Schoenicke at Jenchuan (Chemulpo) able to chronicle that trade there made considerable forward strides in 1888. The steady progress of his port, he points out, might be rapidly increased if the government would only improve the road between Chemulpo and the capital. The distance is 27 English miles, and the road runs through an easy country, and yet it sometimes takes a bull cart three days to traverse it; so that the cost of transport is actually higher than the sea freight from Kobe or Shanghai to Chemulpo. There is also a water route to Mapu, the port of Seoul, a distance of 55 miles; but the river is full of sand-banks, which can only be crossed at high water, and unless the tides are convenient for the steamer to leave Chemulpo before noon, her passengers run the risk of not reaching Seoul before the gates are closed for the night. As to the details of the trade of his port Mr. Schoenicke allows his readers to consult the tables he gives for themselves. It is noticeable that there is no Corean firm engaged in the foreign trade directly and that of the foreign imports, 60 per cent. were of British origin, 17 per cent. of Japanese, 12 per cent. of Chinese, and the remainder divided between Germany, the U.S., and France. The port is advancing materially, building of all kinds going on fast, while financial facilities are provided by a branch of the First National Bank of Japan, established also in Seoul, so that its bank notes are readily accepted at both points. The system of bonding is in vogue at Chemulpo, but it is not more used than it is in Shanghai.

The greater part of Mr. Hunt's report from Fusan is practically embodied in Mr. Merrill's. It was at Fusan that the trade suffered most from the drought, notwithstanding which the net value of its commerce, exclusive of treasure, amounted to $1,447,267 in 1888 against $1,300,909 in 1887. Though, owing to the failure of the crops, the demand for piece-goods fell off in the autumn, their place was taken by cereals; but the famine turned out less severe than was anticipated, and "the parties interested in these articles may lose by

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the speculation." We note that kerosene oil is ousting fish oil as an illuminant; but the latter "is extensively used by Coreans and Japanese to facilitate operations in fishing for biche de mer and awabi; the oil poured on the waters enables the fishermen to see and secure these marine animals." Mr. Hunt adds some interesting notes on the fishing industry, which we have only room to call attention to.

In Yuensan the improvement in trade in 1888 over 1887 was about 20 per cent., and was seen chiefly in the coast trade, though foreign imports and exports both shewed an advance. Native cotton cloth ousted grey shirtings to a certain extent, but Mr. Creagh notices the caprices of Corean taste, for he says of jeans, which were imported for the first time in 1888 and found a ready market, "they may cease to do so should some slightly similar cottons be introduced, as the Coreans seem to take to the latest kinds of goods imported." There really appears to be little to say about either the import or export trade of Yuensan, which Mr. Creagh hopes will go ahead when the contemplated telegraphic connection with the outside world is completed. The want of a medium of commerce is much felt, too; copper cash is the currency of the port, and its carriage in any quantity is so difficult, that a system of barter is still generally resorted to. Evidently on the whole Corea continues to progress, if only gradually, and as long as peace and order are preserved, this progress will continue. Everything appears to be quiet enough at present, although, as we now learn, there is no immediate prospect of the removal of the Chinese Resident, Mr. Yuan, who, we hear, is on the best terms with the government and is not altogether the firebrand that he has been represented to be.

THE NEW CHART OF THE HUANGPU.

A VERY valuable work about which little was said or known during its progress, but which is of deep interest to Shanghai, and especially to that large section of the community which finds its living or its recreation on the water, has recently been brought to completion, the survey of the Huangpu River from its junction with the Yangtze to the Kiangnan Arsenal at Kao-chang Miao, a distance of about twenty miles. The last previous survey of the river dates from 1862, and the enormous changes which both the bed and the banks of the river have undergone since that date are well known; some of them have been brought forcibly to our notice in the Pootung Dock case. That a new survey was necessary was obvious to every one, and it is fortunate that we have in Sir Robert Hart a man who is always ready to give his consent and assistance to any good work of the kind, and in Captain Bisbee and Mr. R. Braun, of the Customs service, two men excellently fitted to undertake the task. The former gentleman who is now enjoying a well-earned holiday at home has long been distinguished by the energy and thoroughness with which he undertakes any duty; and we can but admire the zeal and application which enabled him to carry out so important a work, in addition to his manifold and constant duties as Coast Inspector and Harbour Master. He found an able and congenial assistant in Mr. Braun, who is well and favourably known to the captains and pilots of the river steamers by his surveys of some of the difficult places on the Yangtze.

The new survey was finished a few months before Captain Bisbee left for home, and was originally plotted on the scale of 500 feet to an inch. As good a testimony as could be desired to its value is found in the fact that it has been adopted by the British Admiralty, and is now published by them, having been reduced, however, by them to the scale of 1 to 19,400. The reduction is not sufficient to diminish the clearness of the chart. At every 250 feet—and within the limits of the harbour of Shanghai at every 200 feet—a line of soundings was run across the river. There very numerous soundings are all trigonometrically fixed on the chart, and the depth of water, on the Admiralty publication, is given in feet. It is obvious that this chart must prove of the greatest value for dredging or other engineering work in or along the river. In his speech on Saturday last, on the occasion of the opening of the Woosung Bar dredging operations, the Acting Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Boyd Bredon, modestly transferred to Mr. Hobson and Captain Bisbee the credit of having drawn up the estimates on which the operations were undertaken. We may fairly conclude that it was from this survey by the latter gentleman and Mr. Braun that the calculations and estimates were made as to the quantity of deposit that it would be necessary to remove to secure the required depth of water on the Bar. The constant discussions that one hears as to the depth of water at the competing wharves, the changes at the Pootung Point and along the Pootung shore, the extent of and changes in the Upper Middle Ground and the Gough Island banks, can be rapidly settled by an application to this new chart; which is so comprehensive that it includes the settlements and the Chinese city, and shews clearly the nature of the shore lines, and of the land bordering on the river, the bundings, the reed-patches, the swampy grounds, the creeks and the junk docks. To the Municipal Council it cannot fail to be of assistance to check the survey that is being made of Hongkew. It is easy to compare the distance from the Soochow Creek to the Yangtsze-poo Creek as given in that survey with the same distance as given in this chart; and the easier triangulation from the water side, and the certainty that the Admiralty would not have accepted this chart without being satisfied of its accuracy, justify this new chart's being accepted as the standard.

Another survey of the so-called "South Channel," extending over about 16 miles, has been made, we are informed, by Capt. Bisbee and Mr. Braun, and Mr. E. V. Brenan, Acting Coast Inspector, and Captain Andersen and the Officers of the revenue cruiser *Ping Ching*. It was as a consequence of this survey that it was decided to shift the Kiutoan Lightship, and the survey itself was exhibited at the Coast Inspector's office for the information of seafaring men interested in it. Its results have been incorporated by the Admiralty in the latest edition of their chart. On the coast of China itself a new survey is urgently required, for there is no doubt that many of the islands and points are not laid down accurately on the Admiralty charts; and it is a great pity that the *Rambler* was withdrawn from this work. The U.S. longitude determining expedition of 1881 proved that many of the islands, including the classic Gutzlaff itself, are wrongly placed on the charts; and it is to be hoped that the British Admiralty will soon be able to detail a vessel again for this task; a work which is expected of the nation that still professes to rule the waves. The Customs have done a good work in this new survey of the Huangpu, but there is still plenty of work for them to do in the Yangtze. New surveys are required of such points as the Harvey Channel, the two channels round Silver Island, Hunter Island Channel and others. With such rivers as the Yangtze and the Huangpu the work is practically inexhaustible.

A study of this new chart will be reassuring to those who have feared, or have said that they feared, that the Huangpu was gradually silting up. It is evident that the volume of water in the river is quite as large as it was ten or fifteen years ago, and there is actually more water on the Woosung Bar than there was then. The tendency of the river has been to reduce the number of its bends—what is known and marked as Black Point is now hardly a point at all—and deepen its channel, and the lowest water on the Bar at low water springs is 12 feet. The Bar once crossed there is a fine channel with nothing under 20 feet on it at lowest water as far as the chart extends, some 600 or 700 feet wide and without obstructions of any kind, and there is more accessible wharf accommodation now than there was fifteen years ago. In conclusion we must again congratulate Captain Bisbee and Mr. Braun on their work, and the seafaring community on the valuable assistance with which that work provides them.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY.

24th May.

HER MOST GRACIOUS MAJESTY QUEEN VICTORIA completes to-day the seventieth year of her life, and so memorable a date ought not to be allowed to pass without special notice. In a few days more she

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will have completed the fifty-second year of her reign. Of the reigning sovereigns of the world there are at the present moment only two older than the Queen, the King of Denmark, born on the 8th of April, 1818, and the King of the Netherlands, born on the 19th of February, 1817. Only one has been longer on the throne, the Emperor of Brazil, whose accession took place on the 7th of April, 1831. Since Egbert, the first King of all England, who died 1,050 years ago, only four sovereigns of England out of fifty-four have attained Her Majesty's age, Elizabeth, who died at the age of 70, George II at the age of 77, George III at the age of 82, and William IV at the age of 72; while only two reigns, those of Henry III, 56 years, and George III, 59 years, have exceeded the Queen's in length, that of George III having practically ended when the Regency commenced, nine years before his death. The timid girl of eighteen who received with tears the news of her accession fifty-two years ago has developed into the most loved and respected of sovereigns, ruling over an empire that has extended enormously since 1837 and continues to extend, while the wealth and comfort of her people, and the contentment with her rule, have increased proportionally. Wherever her flag is raised this morning on the thousands of flagstaffs dotted all over the world, it is hailed with pleasure by the peoples over whom it waves, and with the universal hope that Victoria's reign may surpass the longest that preceded it. Republicanism which had its serious supporters in England fifty years ago could hardly find an advocate now in a debating society; even in those sections of Ireland which would like to throw off English rule, there is no real dislike of the Queen personally, and if her age and occupations allowed her to pay the country another visit, no-one doubts that she would be loyally and enthusiastically received.

It is hard to over-estimate the benefits that have accrued to the British Empire from the long life and character of the Queen. There are always grave questions enough stirring the British parliament and people, and in their gradual solution the country has steadily progressed. That solution would often have been postponed and the discussion have reached a dangerous point of bitterness, if they had been complicated by changes in the occupancy of the throne and possibly by the accession of a less impartial sovereign, or of one who devoted himself less thoroughly to the hard work of the post. The work of government is everywhere really done by the permanent officials, and of those permanent officials there is none with more experience, and with more will to use that experience for the public benefit than the Queen. Her Ministers are technically her advisers; but her knowledge is far more extensive and continuous than theirs, for she is always in office and they come and go, and she is really their adviser. Her good natural parts have been so improved by application and a determination to understand her work that there is no one whose advice is of more value, who can more readily recall what was done in similar circumstances before, and suggest what should be done now.

It is very rarely that any accusation of partiality is made against the Queen. It is indeed asserted at times that she was inclined in her youth to the Liberal side, and has now become Conservative. The imputation may be true, for this is a process through which the majority of people pass; but whatever Victoria's proclivities at any time may have been, she has never, notwithstanding the irresponsible chatter of the quidnuncs, allowed them to interfere with her treatment of the Ministers of the day. Two more serious objections have been made and are often repeated; that she does not mix enough with her people and that her patronage of literature, art and science is much too restricted. The former is a sentimental grievance after all; and her people, though they may grumble, have no real cause of complaint if the Queen has been induced by the great sorrow of her life to withdraw herself more from the public, so long as she never neglects her more serious duties, and her sympathies are never wanting in any trouble that may fall upon her subjects. The latter, as formulated by Mr. Besant in his interesting Jubilee book, "Fifty Years Ago," is of more weight. Mr. Besant prints the charge in italics, stating it without comment, but adding that "it should be stated and it should be clearly understood. *The whole of those men who in this generation maintain the greatness of our country in the ways where alone greatness is desirable or memorable, except in arms, the only men of this generation whose memories will live and adorn the Victorian era, are strangers to the Court.* It seems a great pity. An ideal Court should be the centre of everything—Arts, Letters, Science, all." Why the fact should be it is not easy to say. Prince Albert was greatly interested in art, science, and literature. The Queen herself is an artist, a musician and an author. Perhaps she thinks that posterity alone can properly determine the greatness of a painter or a writer, and she is not daring enough to usurp its functions. Or she may have heard so much of the jealousies of artists and authors, that to avoid exciting their jealousies, she treats them all with indifference.

With those slight drawbacks the Queen can look back with perfect satisfaction on her seventy years of life and her fifty-two years of reign. The sorrows incidental to humanity she has experienced, but she has been supported throughout by the well-deserved love and content of her people, she has fulfilled their highest hopes, she has done her duty thoroughly and unflinchingly; and when the time comes—may it be many years hence—for her to hand her sceptre to her successor, she will have the satisfaction of feeling that she leaves her people greater and more prosperous, and her throne more securely established, than she found them, and that there will be no brighter page in English history than the reign of Victoria, whom God preserve!

Outports.

CHI-NAN-FU.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The American missionaries having previously urged again the aid of their Minister in the property difficulties, have received a courteous reply, and assistance is to be continued. It is very doubtful, however, whether any of the cases of the Americans or English will be speedily settled, owing to the chance for the Governor to excuse himself by the pressure of the literary examination in the autumn. This was the mode of delay last year, and may be so this year.

The Governor, anxious to avoid all friction with the students, has been making provision to have a large amount of grain on hand in the city, which may be purchased at more reasonable rates than otherwise.

The Rev. Mr. Richard has arrived on a visit from Peking and it is to be hoped that he may be constrained to take up his permanent abode in this important provincial capital.

Several of the missionaries are now absent from home, being engaged in the famine relief work to the east and north-east. The people are being relieved in a wonderful way.

The Yellow River still remains *the* important question. Somewhere, whether in Honan or Shantung, we may expect further floods, and it may possibly be a wise move for the foreigners to keep back a part of the relief funds for such a calamity. Certainly if all the present funds are at once disposed of, we can hardly expect another fund to be started in only a few months hence.

Small-pox has been in the homes of two of the American families here, thus giving a little more diversity to the life endured.

Some weeks since a large amount of money came down from Shansi, the contribution of a wealthy English missionary to the famine work. On arrival it was taken possession of by the English here to be used by them in places and needs nearer at hand.

May 5th.

CHINKIANG.

A cricket match was played here on the 14th last between an eleven of the Chinkiang Athletic Club and H.M.S. *Swift*. Notwithstanding that several different gunboats have been stationed here since the riots, it is the first match we have played, having amused ourselves before with two Athletic Sports meetings and one cross-country paper chase. The failure of cricket challenges was due to the weather, the moisture of the ground and the secession of the Customs staff from the Club.

The C.A.C. pitch was in excellent condition, though somewhat circumscribed by the rapidly upshooting reeds; and the day was hot but fortunately overcast, rain beginning to fall at the moment of drawing the stumps.

The eleven of H.M.S. *Swift* has an unbeaten record, and maintained it on this occasion, winning by 10 wickets. They have not only the usual advantage of sailors over the lazy inhabitants of an outport in

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being more active and handy, but are excellently captained and never think of shirking a hard catch, for instance. On this occasion too they were *minus* their best bat who went down to the hospital the other day.

Score :—

CHINKIANG.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Mr. Mason, b. Pay	9	c. Borrow, b. Butterfield	26
,, Innocent, c. Ritchie, b. Pay	9	not out	27
,, Thom, b. Argyle	3	b. Argyle	0
,, Sundius, b. Butterfield	14	c. and b. Argyle	0
,, Mansfield, run out	4	b. Argyle	3
,, Southcott, b. Butterfield	3	b. Argyle	0
,, Jack, c. Pay, b. Butterfield	1	c. Bingham, b. Argyle	0
,, Starkey, not out	9	c. Bingham, b. Borrow	0
,, Clark, b. Argyle	0	c. Steward, b. Pay	4
,, Emery, b. Butterfield	1	b. Argyle	0
,, Singer, c. Marsden, b. Butterfield	0	b. Pay	3
Extras	3	Extras	2
Total..	56	Total..	65

H.M.S. SWIFT.

1st Innings.		2nd Innings.	
Mr. Pay, c. Emery, b. Mason	15	not out	12
,, Borrow, b. Mason	0		
Lieut. Steward, l.b.w. b. Innocent	9	not out	4
,, Morgan, b. Mason	9		
Mr. Johnston, c. Mason, b. Sundius	12		
,, Butterfield, not out	1		
Capt. Bingham, b. Southcott	25		
Mr. Argyle, c. Mason, b. Sundius	1		
,, Eversley, 3rd wicket b. Sundius	7		
,, Ritchie, c. Thom, b. Mason	11		
,, Marsden, b. Mason	5		
Extra	10	Extras	1
Total..	105	Total..	17

18th May.

HANKOW.

The following is a summary of the first week's tea business, season 1889-90.

Arrivals of tea to date are :—

Kiukiang Teas—Ningchow, Keemen, Hohow	162,060	½-chests.
Hankow Teas—Oopack, Oonam	131,508	,,
Total arrivals..	293,568	½-chests.

Settlements from 9th to 16th May inclusive :—

	Russian Buyers.	English Buyers.	Totals.
Kiukiang Teas	35,090	65,490	100,580
Hankow Teas	47,126	30,874	78,000
	82,216	96,364	178,580

	Kiukiang Teas.	Hankow Teas.	Total.
Leaving unsold stock on market	61,440	53,548	114,988

Total arrivals of First crop Teas last season were :—Kiukiang Teas 310,000, Hankow Teas 510,000, Total 820,000.

It remains to be seen what will be the total of this year's first crop. Contrary to original expectation, based on the very large increase in the number of packing hongs established in the various tea districts, it is now announced that the crop will be considerably short of last year's and judging by the prices paid, buyers appear inclined to credit the teamen's statements on this head. The quality of the crop is remarkably good and we seem to be having a repetition of 1886 when the good quality tempted buyers, with the result that fine teas were a drug at home and so gave heavy losses to the shippers. The prices, of which we give a summary below, exhibit the highest range we can remember, the lowest quotations this year being almost up to the top quotations of 1887, and the range generally being 30 to 40 per cent. above (what were then considered) the impossible prices of 1888. To these have to be added a higher exchange, and freights £3 to £4 as against £1 to £2 last year.

We quote :—

Ningchows ...Taels	31	@ 60=1/4	to 2/4
Keemens ..... ,,	30	@ 50=1/3½	,, 2/0
Oopacks ..... ,,	20	@ 36=0/11	,, 1/6
Shantams ... ,,	15.8	=0/9½	

The only steamers in port are the *Moyune* advertised at £4 and the *Anchises* at £3. Neither vessel has as yet commenced to load.

The high prices are generally attributed to the new Russian element which has popped into the trade this year and bought freely regardless of cost. On the other hand buyers for London, fearful lest all the fine teas should go by them, have joined in the scramble and it is reported that the *Moyune* takes over 20,000 packages to that market of teas costing 1s. 8d. and upwards.

Altogether the Chinese are having a fine time and the increased sum thus brought into the country should have a good effect on business generally.

17th May.

Settlements, 17th May.

	English Buyers.	Russian Buyers.	Total.
Kiukiang Teas	8,500½-chests	1,050½-chests	9,550
Hankow Teas	11,500 ,,	7,100 ,,	18,600
	20,000	8,150	28,150

	Prices.		
Ningchows and Keemens	...Tls. 25	*a*	Tls. 60
Hohows	,, 18	*a*	,, 19
Oopacks and Oonams	,, 20	*a*	,, 32
Shantams	,, 15		

Prices very firm, later settlements shewing decidedly worse value. The scarcity of "pure" teas is now apparent and renders the competition for them unprecedentedly keen. The bulk of London buyers are holding entirely aloof.

Moyune has commenced to load and *Glenartney* and *Glamorganshire* have arrived.

18th May.

Settlements 18th and 19th May.

	English Buyers.	Russian Buyers.	Totals.
Kiukiang Teas	15,328	2,164	17,492
Hankow ,,	10,454	6,253	16,707
	25,782	8,417	34,199

From opening of season to date (9th to 19th May).

	Arrivals.	Settlements.	Stock.
Kiukiang Teas	190,000	120,000	70,000
Hankow ,,	160,000	110,000	50,000
	350,000	230,000	120,000

Prices these two days are again in favour of sellers, all teas with the slightest pretention to quality commanding keen competition, while the bulk of our stock consists of course and smoky teas unsuitable for any market. The prices paid have been :—

Ningchows, low to medium	.....Tls. 21	*a*	35
Oopacks, common to medium	... ,, 19	*a*	31
Shantam	.... ,, 14½		

The *Moyune* is the only vessel that has thus far commenced to load.

20th May.

ICHANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

All sorts of rumours are current in the city, we have been told; the old Chinese tale of paper men going about and cutting the feathers off people's chickens had been revived, and the people's minds were very unquiet. There had for some time past been an unusual amount of sickness, and the people at first had said this was owing to the medicines foreigners gave natives to carry about and distribute, and which did not kill at once, but after the lapse of months. Now chickens' feathers were cut off and as a man had said to our informant, "you would think it no laughing matter if you understood whoever eats of those chickens, or their eggs, will die." The people were killing the chickens with cut feathers, and looking out for the cutting off of pigtails, which had been a precursor of the Taiping Rebellion. We were all rather amused than impressed, but next day the teacher when he came was most serious about it. His own chickens had had their feathers cut, and it had happened during the night, when they had been most carefully shut up, where none could get at them. No! the amount of sickness was not attributed to foreigners now; it had been at first, and had given rise to a very bad feeling. But now that people knew that the paper men rode about, they quite understood it. Moreover a woman near by had given birth to a baby without any feet. Distressed by its deficiencies she had thought to kill it, when the new-born babe had spoken, and said "This year Indian corn will grow big like cows' horns. Next year you will shovel up rice in basketsfull. The year after the rivers will run red." Then the baby had died, and the woman had buried it, but none knew where, nor had anyone seen the baby. "Before the Taipings," said the teacher, "there was the same sort of prophecy, and it came true then. Who knows, but that this may come true now?" The same man on being asked whether he believed the teachings of the missionaries here, exclaimed "No! of course not. Am I not a man of education; could I believe such nonsense?" Yet he evidently believed in this baby that spoke, and the paper men, who are quite small, like dolls, and are really a kind of Genii.

He said also that in consequence of the troubled state of the people the authorities had put out a proclamation which we afterwards saw, to the soldiers :—

"Not to create disturbances,

"Not to frequent wine or tea houses,

"Not to join Ko-ti-hui, or the elder and younger brotherhood (of Hunan). Nor risk your 7 feet of body, which is not easily supported nor brought forth without much labour of your parents. If you disobey you will be beheaded, and all your parents' pains will have been in vain."

This also was in verse.

When asked why 7 feet, when soldiers generally are but 5 feet high, he only said "That is to flatter them."

Next day we saw a crowd of rather smart women with flowers in their hair, all in a high state of excitement. One of them held in her hands a chicken with sure enough all the feathers of one wing cut off. Later on we heard that Mr. C. had had his chickens' feathers cut, "and not one feather or bit of a feather has been dropped as would certainly have been the case, had it been done by mortal man during the night. Besides his chickens are so securely shut up, none can possibly get at them." We believed this to be true, but later on asking about it, Mrs. C. said, "Why, I cut them myself. It is very commonly done with us to prevent them from flying." So there was no dreadful presage there and it seems now that in spite of the cutting off of pigtails being more terrible than the cutting of feathers, inasmuch as the un-pigtailed one is bound to die within the year, a man whose pigtail was cut off in some previous time of tumult, yet lives at Shasze.

However now we were told of, and saw ourselves in the city, a printed placard against foreigners in general and Roman Catholics in particular. Evidently the secret societies are alive and stirring.

To-day we heard that a priest in the neighbourhood had received for the night two pilgrim priests, as is the custom of the country. And in the morning he could not find them so he went out to look for them, and was told they had been seen entering a certain cottage, so he entered also and not seeing them asked the woman of the house where they were. "No priests have been here," said she, "but this morning I saw two paper men, so I made haste to throw them on the fire and burn

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them." Thus it has been known that the paper men had been going about the country disguised as priests.

May 12th.

YOKOHAMA.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

The most important circumstance that has transpired in the political world during the past week has been the arrival of Count Itagaki in the Capital. Since Count Goto entered the Cabinet, eyes have been riveted upon the well-known Liberal leader and many have been the statements made vouching for his refusal to follow the example of the present Minister of State for the Department of Communications. The Count came up by rail, and arrived at Shinagawa on the 9th, where he was met by several hundred members of the Liberal party and of the Daido Danketsusha. Interest is centered in the question as to whether the Count will accept office or not, but the bulk of opinion now inclines to the view that he will. Still it is urged, nevertheless, that the people's champion will resolutely decline the profferred honours until such time as legislative enactments indicate oneness of thought upon such crucial subjects as freedom of the press, the right and privilege of public meeting, and the laws of publication. Various posts are named for the Count; Adviser or Member of the Sumitsu In (Privy Council), a position the *Yomiuri Shimbun* considers to be inadequate, President of the Senate—as a stepping-s one to the Presidency of the House of Peers to be constituted next year, and Minister of State for Home Affairs; though it is not said what is to become of Lieut.-General Count Yamagata, the present Home Minister. Notwithstanding much that has been written to the contrary, it seems evident that the Count will lend the weight of his name and reputation to the Government. His accession will strengthen the Executive, but materially lessen the probability of the creation of a strong cohesive Liberal party, Parties are in the making, and will be for some considerable time to come.

Some of your readers may remember the attempt to assassinate Count (then Mr.) Itagaki made seven years ago. It was exactly 7 years ago on the 1st instant. The would-be assassin, Aibara Naobumi, was released under the general amnesty pronounced on the occasion of the promulgation of the constitution. On the evening of the 11th Naobumi waited upon his generous and noble-hearted opponent, confessed his offence and expressed his joy at the failure of his attempt to take the Count's life "seven years before." The visitor was kindly received, and the vernacular papers report that the Count replied that though his heart was pledged to fidelity to the nation and to the country's true interests, he should not censure Naobumi for renewing the attempt upon his life if he proved faithless and violated and ignored the principles and duties of his life. Some journals even go so far as to assert that Count Itagaki expressed approval of his old time assailant's action, but this seems barely credible though in the light of the old Samurai spirit it is quite possible. The Count is to be received in special audience by the Emperor at the Palace in a day or two.

The Hon. John F. Swift, the new U.S. Minister to Japan, arrived here last Saturday morning. The Minister was accompanied by Mrs. Swift and two nieces. His Excellency landed under a salute from the American flag-ship *Omaha*. The late Minister, the Hon. R. B. Hubbard, leaves for the States by O. & O. s.s. *Arabic* on the 19th. A movement is on foot to present Mr. Hubbard with a testimonial in proof of the "friendly feeling and high esteem" entertained towards him as a man, and of the "profound appreciation of his many eminent public services." It is felt that the late Minister has contributed in a marked degree to strengthen and increase "the more cordial understanding of one another by the two nations," Japan and America, and in encouraging the tendency manifested by an important section of Japanese "to look toward American thought as that which is likely to give" the Japanese the "most liberal and disinterested help." His Excellency is undergoing the strain of the customary round of farewell dinners, etc., official and unofficial.

Much regret is felt over the news received by telegraph in Tokio on the 13th instant of His Excellency Shioda Saburo's death at Peking. The posthumous dignity has been conferred by the Emperor of promotion to the rank of third grade, second class. The *Japan Mail* of yesterday's date writing in anticipation of the worst thus refers to the deceased Minister:—"The loss of such an able official will be severely felt. Mr. Shioda is a highly gifted man possessed not only of exceptional talent but also of great energy and perseverance. He has admirably discharged the duties of his difficult and important post in Peking and his death, if unfortunately the diagnosis of his medical men prove correct, just as he had acquired experience of diplomatic methods in China and won the confidence of the Tsung-li Yamên cannot be too much regretted for his country's sake."

The sale of the old *Monocacy* advertised for disposal at public auction was suddenly and unexpectedly withdrawn a few days since, in conformity with telegraphic instructions received from the Secretary of State for the Navy. The United States Navy, doubtless owing to the disaster at Samoa, is therefore still to count the remaining double-ender upon its list of effective sea-going vessels. Some serious inconvenience must have been caused by the announcement of the sale and its withdrawal, for I know of one party at least who came from one of the northern China ports solely with the object of purchasing the ship.

H.M.S. *Cordelia*, Captain Grenfell, arrived in port from Kobe on Sunday morning.

14th May.

TIENTSIN.

(From the *Chinese Times.*)

The silting up of the river has rendered difficult the turning of steamers at the Bund. Sometimes they stick right across the river, and being unable to move in any direction have to wait until the current at stem and stern clears the obstructing shoal.

On Sunday last, while the s.s. *Kwongsang* was endeavouring to turn opposite the offices of the Taku Tug and Lighter Co., the action of the propeller loosened some of the piles, and a portion of the Bund becoming undermined, sank about two feet below its proper level. Repairs are now being effected by the Municipality.

The foreshore of the French settlement has silted up for a distance of about fifteen yards from the Bund and coolies are busy removing the soil for filling-in purposes.

The removal of the railway bridge is proceeding cheerfully, operations on the last four piles of the fifty-two in the centre being carried on to-day. We hear that it has now been decided to remove the bridge altogether, and that a contract has been accepted from a native firm to draw the side piles for Tls. 1,000. How true this may be we cannot say; the contractor will, without doubt, earn his money.

The line of railway which we reported last week to have been sanctioned between Hankow and Peking may be considered as only an acceptance of the principle of trunk lines in China, for the Hankow line itself would be of very secondary value as a strategical or commercial line; and to render it available for Imperial purposes it would require to be supplemented by lines from Tientsin to the Yangtze; from Nanking, Chinkiang, or Yangchow to Hankow, along the Yangtze valley; from Wuchang to Canton; and from Nanking to Ningpo. A line from Hankow to Peking by itself would not pay its working expenses, and even for strategical lines at the beginning of railway enterprise in China, it is important that they should be put on a paying basis.

We are very glad to be able to report, on adequate authority, that Professor Church has come upon a lode of galena (silver lead) at Jeho of extraordinary richness, as it gives 500 ounces of silver to each ton of ore. This is a most magnificent discovery.

Viewed in the light of the recent quashing of the Tungchow extension, the Imperial Rescript to the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung's memorial is rather startling, coming as it does so closely upon the Tungchow affair, and one becomes confirmed in the opinion that the motive principle which appears to govern the actions of the Chinese is, to say the least, erratic:—

"We have received the replies of the Governors-General and Governors of the various coast provinces upon the question of railways in which the subject was exhaustively discussed both favourably and adversely, and all further argumentation upon the matter is unnecessary. We find that the memorial of Chang Chih-tung contains proposals specially demanded by the wants of the times, and We hand it over to the Board of Admiralty for their fair and impartial deliberation. The memorials of Hung Pang-lien and Lui Ming-chuan also set forth useful recommendations. We hand copies of them to the Admiralty Board."

FOOCHOW.

We hear that the opening price of the first chop Peiling tea is somewhat like Tls. 2 higher than last season, and that the quality is a little better.

We understand that the Director of the Arsenal has been making large reductions in the *personnel* with a view to economy. About 100 men have been discharged from the Torpedo and Cannon-foundry Departments, with 81 students and 15 teachers, besides other employés. A saving of Tls. 100,000 per annum is expected from this reduction in the Arsenal staff.

It is currently reported that the Arsenal Commissioner has become insane, in consequence of the newly launched steamer which was built under his order being found ineffective. We are informed that an arrangement is about to be made with some one who is well learned in the art of ship-building, to re-construct the same at a cost of some Tls. 400,000.

We published some time ago a translation by our occasional correspondent G.M.C. of an official proclamation dealing with the native banking system, in which some very stringent rules were promulgated for the government of bankers and for the prevention of runs on them. We now hear that their lot is rendered all the more hard by fresh enactments of a quasi-draconian character and that the majority of them have thought it preferable to put up their shutters than to continue with their business under such severe restrictions, one of which is that every five bankers shall have to stand security for the honesty of one of their number. The small money changers, according to the latest enactment, are to be wiped off the face of the earth altogether. This will, in a measure, be a boon specially to the poorer classes, inasmuch as these bankers-in-a-petty-way have all along arrogated to themselves the right of issuing paper money the payment of which can safely be relegated to the Greek Kalends in the event of any little difficulty cropping up.—*Foochow Echo.*

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Peking Gazettes.

ASTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTES.

30th April.

TEMPLE FOR JEN LAN-SHENG.

Three hundred and fifty-one gentlemen of Fêng-yang and the adjoining prefectures in Anhui have presented a petition to the Governor of the province, asking him to obtain permission for them to build a temple in honour of Jen Lan-sheng, who was formerly Taotai of that part of the country. According to their statement, Jen Lan-sheng was first employed as Military Secretary by the distinguished Governor Ying Han, and was afterwards appointed Taotai of the Circuit. In his earlier days he brought peace to the country by destroying a number of brigands and rebel bands. Afterwards, when tranquillity had been established, he assisted the people in many ways. Thus in the year 1877, he averted a famine by the vigorous steps he took to deal with a plague of locusts which threatened the land. Soon after came the great famine in Shansi and Honan, when he saved hundreds of thousand of lives by relieving the starving people who congregated in the country, or by finding funds to enable them to go elsewhere. When this had passed away he provided against future scarcity by storing grain and by clearing out the watercourses and reservoirs. These stores were soon called into requisition by a waterspout in Ying-shan, when all the corn in the place was washed away. In 1883, fourteen districts in the valley of the Huai were badly flooded. Again he preserved countless lives by raising large sums and distributing charity or instituting relief works. Nor was his power of organisation less markedly shown after the great rebellion, in spite of the difficulty of the circumstances. He rebuilt city walls, repaired roads and bridges, restored reservoirs and dams, constructed rest houses, and established life boats and free ferries. He raised funds for colleges, bought school books, endowed free schools, and examination rooms. He gave his attention to silk cultivation, to vaccination, to dispensaries and burial societies, besides organising charities in winter. Unfortunately he retained by mistake a clerk in his service who had been ordered to be discharged, on which account he was dismissed by the government. But in affectionate remembrance of his goodness, a sum was raised by public subscription, and his official rank was acquired for him again. At the time of the great Yellow River floods he was sent back to Anhui to superintend the distribution of relief. Undeterred by the severity of the winter weather he personally visited the suffering districts. He distributed money, established relief works, taught the people to collect boats and build refuge-mounds, aiding them from public funds, and writing to Kiangsu for help from charitable societies. But his health gave way and he died of a sickness brought on by excessive work. Although the Emperor has shown him marked distinction, still the people, remembering his many kindnesses, wish to be allowed to show their gratitude by building temples to him in the cities which were the scene of his labours. The memorialist is able to assure His Majesty of the sincerity of the affection felt for the deceased officer. But remembering that it has been forbidden to make inappropriate applications for special temples, he ventures to suggest that the Emperor might be pleased to give the deceased Taotai a place in the temple dedicated to Ying Han, where sacrifice may be offered to him in spring and autumn by the local authorities. —*Sanctioned.*

PREVENTION OF GINSENG GATHERING.

The Kirin authorities report that, in accordance with the regulations instituted in the year 1852, the ginseng-producing districts in the province have all been patrolled, and no illicit gathering of the plant has been discovered. The localities visited by the patrols are the Ying-o Hills near Kirin City, the Sui-fen River near Ninguta, near San-sing on the west bank of the Usuri, which, as the memorial notices, has not been ceded to Russia, and Lo-la-mi near Alchucu.

1st May.

DEATH OF TARTAR GENERAL, TUKAR.

An Imperial Decree notices the death of Tukar, Tartar General at Uliasutai. It states that the deceased General did good service in the suppression of the Taiping and Mohammedan rebellions, and desires that he shall be accorded the favours generally bestowed upon an officer of his rank.

RELIEF OF DISTRESS IN ANHUI.

A memorial presented by the Governor of Anhui requests that he may be allowed to recommend for rewards certain officers concerned in the distribution of charity in that province. In the month of June the year before last the portion of the province which borders on the Yangtze was visited by an inundation which caused great distress and in many places washed away the embankments that protect the fields. The memorialist therefore obtained permission to raise contributions for the purpose of relieving the sufferers and repairing the broken banks. Soon afterwards came the still more terrible floods in the north of the province, due to the Yellow River's entering the valley of the Huai, in consequence of which, part of the money raised was diverted to that region. With this latter expenditure the memorialist is not now concerned; but he gives a detailed account of the funds disbursed in the valley of the Yangtze, where both the relief operations were concluded in the month of July last year, and the repairs to embankments in the month of December. The greatest number of sufferers was found in the district of Huai-ning (Gan-king), next in Tung-ch'eng, then in Tang-tu, T'ai-hu, and Wuhu, and then in Su-sung, and Wu-wei. The number of persons relieved, old and young together, was 164,435; and the total amount spent in charity was Tls. 40,761. Of this, Tls. 10,936 was distributed in cash; Tls. 23,824 was employed in the purchase of rice; Tls. 5,000 in buying ten thousand wadded coats; and Tls. 1,000 were handed to the Shanghai Committee which was working at Tang-tu, and found its funds insufficient. In the rebuilding of embankments there were expended Tls. 87,657. Of this, Tls. 44,004 were disbursed directly by the authorities; Tls. 21,385 were given as assistance to the people; and Tls. 22,267 were lent for six years to the people of Tang-tu, who were engaged in rebuilding the great public embankment there, and found themselves unable to raise a sufficient amount to complete the work. The total sum under both heads thus comes to more than one hundred and twenty-eight thousand taels. There were other moneys employed in embankments, of which no notice is taken here, namely in Tung-ch'eng, where the Magistrate borrowed money from the provincial treasury; and in Tung-ling, where the river wall was rebuilt by private subscriptions, of which, at the request of the principal contributor, no notice was taken by the authorities.—*Approved.*

2nd May.

TRIBUTE RICE SENT TO SHANTUNG.

An Imperial Decree notices the long prevalence of severe distress caused by natural calamities in Shantung. Last year the Governor obtained permission to retain in the province fifty thousand taels which ought to have been sent to Peking. This year, at his request, in addition to fifty thousand taels taken from the provincial exchequer, the Board of Revenue at Peking has provided a hundred thousand taels from other sources for the relief of the suffering poor. But, besides this, the Emperor, deeply moved by the magnitude of the famine, orders Li Hung-chang to divert to Shantung a hundred thousand piculs of tribute rice. This appropriation will be taken from the portion of the tribute which is sent north by steamer, and there will be added to it a sum of money equivalent to the charges which would have been paid for conveying it from Tientsin to Tungchow, if it had been sent as usual to Peking. The Governor will attend to its conveyance to the famine districts, where he will see that it is fairly distributed by trustworthy officials, without any opportunity being given for peculation or fraud on the part of the government clerks and underlings.

May 3rd.

ARREARS DUE BY MAGISTRATES.

The Viceroy at Canton reports that the late acting Magistrate at Hsi-ning has failed to hand over a sum of Tls. 4,600, for which he is responsible. The Viceroy therefore proposes that the defaulting officer shall be deprived of his button and given four months in which to make good the money. If he fails to do so within the time, his property will be attached, and if it be not enough, his superiors will be called upon to make up the deficiency.—*Approved.*

The Governor of Shansi states that the former Magistrate of T'ien-chen Hsien, who vacated his post on account of mourning, was found to be indebted to the Government in the sum of Tls. 887. As frequent demands for the money only resulted in his producing Tls. 48, he was cashiered and arrested, and his property was ordered to be seized. He has since then made good the whole sum owed by him. As it appears that the money was originally expended by him in the public service and not wrongfully appropriated, and as the sum was less than five thousand taels, and was refunded within the year, it is requested, in accordance with the regulations in force, that he may be reinstated in his former rank.—*Approved.*

4th May.

COLLECTION OF DUTIES AT KALGAN.

The following figures are extracted from a report submitted to the Throne by the Superintendent of Customs at Kalgan. From 25th January to 14th June 1887—Tls. 17,551.2.3 were collected exclusive of over 1,000 *tiao* for miscellaneous duties; and from 15th June 1887 to 13th January 1888 the receipts amounted to Tls. 19,026.8.1.4.5, together with over 2,000 *tiao* from miscellaneous accounts; from 14th Jan. to 2nd June 1888 the amount realised was Tls. 17,549.8.1.3 and the miscellaneous receipts were over 1,000 *tiao*. The total receipts for 1887 were on the fixed assessment Tls. 20,004.7.8 while the supplementary was represented by Tls. 16,573.2.6.4.5. A long list of the disbursement follows including payments to the military authorities at Chahar, to the Chü-yung Customs Station and other places.

WITHDRAWAL OF THE PROHIBITION AGAINST THE EXPORT OF GRAIN FROM MANCHURIA.

Owing to the high price of grain in the lower province of Manchuria consequent upon the devastating floods of last year, the High Authorities in Moukden acting upon a precedent established in 1874 obtained the sanction of the Throne to the temporary prohibition of the export of grain. Early however in the present year the Governor of Shantung telegraphed to the Manchurian authorities that great distress prevailed in the province under his rule and that he proposed to follow the example of the Viceroy Li and ask that the restriction on the export of grain from Manchuria should be withdrawn at least so far as the western parts in the lower province were concerned. His request was favourably received by the Throne and he was directed to consult with the Manchurian authorities as to the proper way

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of putting his project into execution, The latter now state that although no floods occurred last year in Chin Chau and the western parts of the lower province generally, still the harvest was very poor and the stock of grain is inconsiderable. However they do not feel justified in entirely opposing the proposal made by the Governor of Shantung in view of the great distress prevailing in that province, and they have accordingly agreed that the export of rice should be allowed up to the limit of 60,000 piculs.

5th May.

MORTALITY AMONGST OFFICIALS IN YUNNAN.

The climate of the border country in Yünnan is so unhealthy that every two or three years the Throne is asked to confer posthumous honours on officers who have succumbed to its effects. A list is now furnished by the Viceroy of seventy-seven officials engaged in frontier defence work who during the last two years have either fallen in battle or died from malarial fever, and sanction is requested for the bestowal of the usual tokens of respect to their memory.

HOMICIDES IN CHINESE TURKESTAN.

The following two cases of homicide are reported by the Governor of Chinese Turkestan. (1) Ha-yi and Ha-ssŭ-mo were two Mahometans living on friendly terms in the department of K'u-ch'ê. One day about two years ago, Ha-ssŭ-mo went across to Ha-yi's house after early breakfast to have a talk, when he proposed to the other to while away the time by gambling. The two men accordingly sat down together and played at dice until Ha-ssŭ-mo lost all the money he possessed. He then took off his clothing and pledged it to Ha-yi for four mace which he lost also, and afterwards demanded a loan of money to enable him to continue gambling. This having been refused, he lost his temper and began abusing his companion and in the scuffle which ensued Ha-yi was killed. In order to obliterate all traces of the crime, Ha-ssŭ-mo put the corpse in a bag and concealed it until nightfall when he removed it secretly on horseback and threw it into a pond, covering it over with reeds. Here it was discovered by the brother of the deceased on whose report the murderer was arrested, convicted and condemned to strangulation after the usual period of incarceration.

(2) A Mahometan named Mai-mai-ti lived near Hami, and a neighbouring farmer had a servant known as the younger Chang. One day last year Chang was grinding corn at the mill with a horse and towards dusk the animal was let loose and wandered into a field belonging to Mai-mai-ti, where he destroyed some grain. Mai-mai-ti impounded the horse and when Chang went to demand its release a stormy interview occurred which ended in Chang's receiving a fatal kick in the abdomen from the effects of which he died a few days later. Under the law relating to homicide, Mai-mai-ti has been sentenced to strangulation, and as Chang is dead no notice need be taken of his carelessness in allowing the animal to stray into his neighbour's crops.

DEATH OF AN OFFICER ON THE BURMESE FRONTIER.

For some time past the Viceroy of Yünnan has been engaged in bringing under administrative rule a large district known as the Lo-hei country in the south-western corner of Yünnan. One of the officers who took the most active part in reducing the country and bringing it under settled administration was a prefect named Wang Sê-kao, who has recently succumbed to the deadly effects of the climate. In soliciting posthumous honours on his behalf, the Viceroy dwells on the worth of his services and the great courage which he showed in facing a deadly climate during his long career.

6th May.

LIST OF OFFICERS WHO ARE TO RECEIVE REWARDS FOR SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE REPAIR OF THE BREACH IN THE YELLOW RIVER.

A Decree. We are in receipt of a series of memorials from Wu Ta-ch'êng, and Ni Wên-wei recommending a number of civil and military officers for various forms of promotion and reward in recognition of the services they rendered in connection with the closing of the breach in the Yellow River. These services which extended over a long period of time and were performed with the utmost cheerfulness and enthusiasm fully entitle those concerned to special consideration, and We order that lists containing the names of 652 civil and 120 military officials be handed to the Board for such observations as they may see fit to make. We also take this opportunity of recording our appreciation of the services rendered by the high executive authorities of other provinces whose prompt remittances of funds contributed very materially to the speedy completion of the work.

As regards Ch'ên Pao-chên, a Judicial Commissioner who was previously removed from office, he was not only late in arriving at his post but asked leave shortly after he assumed it. We cannot therefore sanction the application for the restoration of his former honours.

SUBSCRIPTIONS RAISED BY SALE OF OFFICIAL RANK IN FUKIEN FOR REPAIR OF YELLOW RIVER.

As previous *Gazettes* have frequently mentioned, the sale of official rank was authorised for one year as a means of raising money for the repair of the breach in the Yellow River. The Viceroy at Foochow now reports that the amount realised from this source during the past year in Fukien is Tls. 18,463.7 which represents payments made by 65 persons who have purchased various degrees of official rank.

APPLICATION FOR RETENTION OF OFFICERS AT FOOCHOW.

The new Viceroy at Foochow applies for permission to retain the services of three officers of whom he has had previous experience.

Tai Ming-shan is a Hunan man who entered the army in 1857 and has since covered himself with glory in a hundred engagements. He was the first to storm the ramparts at Nanking in 1864 for which he received substantive promotion. He served previously under the memorialist in Hunan and accompanied him thence to Foochow. Yang Ch'un-lan, a native of Hunan, after a long and varied career in the army, accompanied Yang Ch'ang-chün to Turkestan in 1878 to assist him in re-organising the province after the war. He came with a relieving force to Foochow during the French troubles and has since had a very active career. The third, Chang Ting-t'ai is also a Hunan man who has risen by his own merit from a subordinate position in the army to the rank of Colonel, which he now holds. The services of all three are urgently required at Foochow and the Viceroy hopes that he will be allowed to continue to avail himself of them.

7th May.

APPROVAL OF PRINCE CH'UN'S SERVICES AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF OF THE PEKING FOREIGN DRILLED TROOPS. DECREE BY H. M. THE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

On the occasion of our visit to Wan Shou Shan, We witnessed a review of the military and naval contingents of the Peking Foreign drilled troops. The precision of their movements and the regularity of their volley firing reflect the greatest credit upon Prince Ch'un, whose careful instruction extending over so many years has produced such excellent results. We command the Imperial Clan Court to determine on a suitable reward as a recognition of the Prince's services.

REWARDS TO PRINCE CH'ING AND OTHER COMMANDERS OF THE PEKING FOREIGN DRILLED TROOPS.

In a second decree on the same subject the Empress again expresses her extreme satisfaction with the results of the review, and directs the Imperial Clan Court to decide upon a fitting reward for Prince Ch'ing, the second in command. The Board of Admiralty are also to confer rewards on Tê Fu, Cha-la-fêng-a, Hsi Ching and other officers of the same force, while Her Majesty has allotted a sum of Tls. 5,000 to be distributed amongst the soldiers as a mark of her appreciation of their conduct and an encouragement to future exertions.

MOVEMENTS OF HIGH OFFICIALS IN SHANSI.

Kang-yi, the Governor of Shansi, was recently transferred to the Governorship of Kiangsu, the Governor of the latter province, Wei Yung-kuang, replacing him in Shansi. Kang-yi now proposes to come to Peking for audience, without awaiting the arrival of his successor who has obtained leave of absence, and asks permission to hand over charge to the Lieutenant-Governor Yü Shan.—*Sanctioned by Rescript.*

8th May.

DEATH OF THE DEPUTY LIEUTENANT-GENERAL AT NING-HSIA.

The Tartar General at Ning-hsia reports the circumstances attending the death of his immediate subordinate Ch'ang-hsing-a. The deceased, who was 57 years of age, lately applied for temporary leave of absence on grounds of ill health, and the memorialist on going to visit him found his personal appearance greatly changed. He suffered from great difficulty of breathing and was evidently fast approaching his end. The only member of his family living with him was a daughter and all the preparations connected with his obsequies were performed by strangers. The deceased was one of the most brilliant commanders in the Empire and had risen by sheer merit from the ranks. In him the memorialist has lost his right hand man and his country a soldier whose body covered with wounds received in many a battle field attested his daring prowess. His remains are to be escorted to his native place near the Amoor and in a Decree already published, orders were given for the bestowal of appropriate honours to his memory.

9th May.

ROBBERY OF AN OFFICIAL SEAL.

During the absence of Prince Po who was attending upon the Emperor at Wan Shou Shan the seal of the Commandant of the Plain White Banner Corps was stolen on the night of the 22nd April last. According to the report furnished by the officer in whose custody it was at the time, a hole was made in the wall of the room and the box in which it was kept was forcibly opened by robbers who carried off the contents. Before the Prince returned, the Lieutenant-General of the Banner had already reported the circumstances to the Throne and orders had been issued to all the detective departments in Peking to take measures for the apprehension of the criminals. The Prince and all the higher officers of the force are to receive such penalties as the Board may decide upon and the seal of the Mongol Lieutenant of the Banner is to be employed in the transaction of business until a new one can be issued by the Board of Rites.

10th May.

YELLOW RIVER IN SHANTUNG.

The Governor of Shantung reports that the banks of the Yellow River in Shantung stand in urgent need of repairs and asks that he may be supplied with funds to enable him to carry out the work. The present course of the Yellow River in Shantung was, he explains, in former days a great waterway for the carriage of salt and both of its banks are thickly dotted with towns and villages. On the southern side the embankment is some four or five *li* from the river and the intervening space

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is covered with villages which are frequently submerged by the water. The people are naturally reluctant to remove from the ground on which they have been long settled, but nearly every year they have been dependent upon charity for subsistence, and it is evident that such a system cannot be indefinitely prolonged. After carefully considering the question with his executive council, he has determined upon the removal of the people from all the districts which are liable to flooding. This will involve the transfer to a more favourable locality of 30,000 families to each of which he proposes to give Tls. 10 by way of compensation, exclusive of a considerable number who have sufficient means to effect their own removal. Two years ago the Governor proposed that the work of restoring the embankments in Shantung which, it appears, are scarcely a third of the dimensions of those in Honan, should be spread over a number of years, and estimated the expenditure at Tls. 770,000. The Board to whose consideration the question was referred pleaded want of urgency, and as vast sums were being spent at the moment on the works going on at Chêng Chou the memorialist did not venture to trouble the Throne with a further appeal. Having regard however to the present state of the river in Shantung, he cannot admit that any further delay should be allowed, and as the Board of Revenue would not probably be in a position to meet such a large demand, he can only ask that the funds contributed by the various provinces for the repairs at Chêng Chou should be devoted for use in Shantung. —*Referred to the Board concerned for its immediate consideration.*

MISDOINGS OF A TELEGRAPH CLERK.

The Viceroy Li states that the extension of the telegraph system all over the Empire has necessitated the employment of a numerous staff of clerks whose merits and faults ought to be duly noticed in the interests of an important branch of the public service. At Chefoo there is a clerk named Chou Ch'uan-chien whose doings have brought the office into great disrepute and have become the common talk of the place. He has been denounced by the Director General of Telegraphs, the Taotai Shêng Hsüan-huai, and the Viceroy now asks that he should be stripped of his official position in order that he may be placed upon his trial and punished for his offences.

CUSTOMS DUTIES AT SHA HU K'OU.

The Superintendent of Customs at Sha Hu K'ou reports that the receipts of the office during the year of his incumbency amounted to Tls. 43,542.1.3 and that after paying all expenses, a balance of Tls. 15,679.2.7.7 was remitted to the Board of Revenue.

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At the Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday, the 14th May, 1889, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. Macgregor (Chairman), M. Adler, H. H. Joseph, J. E. Judah, E. Wheeley, and the Secretary.

The Minutes of the last Meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted, and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Quarters for Native Constables.—Letter from Captain McEuen is read, pointing out that it would be a great advantage in a Police point of view if the godown at the New Louza Station could be given up as quarters for Chinese constables.

The Chairman says that this letter was submitted to the Works Committee, and that the acting Surveyor informed them that the godown can be spared by the Works Department; they had therefore decided to recommend the Council to allow it to be given up to the Police.—Decided to agree to this.

Victoria Fire Engine.—The following correspondence is submitted and ordered to be published :—

Shanghai, 20th April, 1889.

DEAR SIR,—We beg to inform you that this Company is desirous of disposing of their Steam Fire Engine "Victoria," and we have been directed to enquire if the Municipality would be disposed to purchase same. We believe the Company would be prepared to accept a very moderate price.

We are, Dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents, China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.

To R. F. THORBURN, Esq.,
Secretary Municipal Council.

Shanghai Fire Department,
Shanghai, 7th May, 1889.

SIR,—In reply to your letter of the 25th ulto., regarding the purchase of the Steam Fire Engine "Victoria," I am directed to hand you the accompanying report from the Chief Engineer and members of the Fire Commission, from which you will gather that the acquisition of the engine is strongly recommended.

The price of the engine, with all necessary appurtenances, as per inventory herewith, is $2,500.

In addition to the engine there are two hose reels and 800 feet of hose which it would also be necessary to purchase. The hose reels cost Tls. 673, and would be sold for one-third less than the original cost, and the hose to be taken over at a fair valuation.

I am Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. A. POND,
Secretary, Fire Commission.

R. F. THORBURN, Esq.,
Secretary Municipal Council.

Report by Chief Engineer.

I would certainly advise keeping the "Victoria" Engine in Shanghai. There are times and places when the steam fire engine only can be used, in the outlying districts in the English and American Settlements, where there are numerous buildings and we have to depend on the steamer to force the water a long distance.

At the fire next door to L. Vrard & Co. the upper windows of Vrard & Co. caught fire, and we found it impossible to reach those windows with hydrant force, and the steamer was brought into action to stay the fire. At the fire corner of Nanking and Honan Roads the fire ran along the roof, and we had to depend on the steamer to do the work, while the French steamer was so engaged, an alarm of fire came from the French Settlement, and I had to send the French steamer and men to their own district and their place was taken by the "Victoria" steamer, both engines playing from the Church compound. I think without the aid of steam the fire might have been a very serious one.

Description of Engine.

Victoria Steam Fire Engine.—Shand and Mason, Patent No. 2 size, Vertical Steam Fire Engine, built in 1870, kept in first class order and good repair. Will require a new Boiler in the course of a year or two, new tubes are in stock, cost laid down £817, price required $2,500.

Two patent American hose reels, purchased in New York in 1883, cost laid down Tls. 673; would allow ⅓ off. All extra gear as per inventory would be handed over to the Council in above named valuations.

Hose 1,400 feet, of which about 800 feet is the property of China Fire Insurance Co.

Shanghai, 9th May, 1889.

SIR,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 7th instant which has been submitted to the Council, who in reply direct me to inform you that they are prepared to act upon the recommendation of the Fire Commission and to purchase the "Victoria" Engine for the use of the Fire Brigade, but before doing so, they will be obliged if you will ascertain for them whether the China Fire Insurance Company will not accept a less price for it than $2,500.

They also wish to know whether any additional amount will require to be expended, to put the engine in good repair, how much the new boiler will cost which they note will be required in one or two years, the cost of the 800 feet hose which it will be necessary to purchase, and whether it will be necessary to provide an engine-house for it.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
R. F. THORBURN,
Secretary.

To J. A. POND, Esq.,
Secretary Fire Commission.

Shanghai, 13th May, 1889.

SIR,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., having reference to the purchase of the Fire Engine "Victoria."

The various questions enumerated in your letter have been submitted to the Agents of the China Fire Insurance Company, who have fully answered them in the accompanying letter, which I am directed to hand you.

I am also directed to say that the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department considers that the price asked for the engine, with all gear, hose, trucks, etc., is remarkably cheap.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. A. POND,
Sec. Fire Commission.

To R. F. THORBURN, Esq.,
Secretary Municipal Council.

Shanghai, 11th May, 1889.

DEAR SIR,—We beg to acknowledge your letter of 10th instant having reference to the purchase by the Municipality of the "Victoria" Steam Fire Engine, with all gear, hose trucks, hose, etc., as enumerated in the inventory already handed you.

The price named by the China Fire Insurance Company, Limited, for the engine was $2,800, but this we reduced on our own responsibility to $2,500, and we will, should the Council desire us to do so, address the Secretary of the Company in Hongkong again, with a view of getting some further reduction in the price.

The Chief Engineer of the Fire Department informs us that the engine is at present in perfect working order, and did excellent service at the fire of the 27th April last, it is not likely to require any repairs for a long time; he also informs us that the present boiler may last three or four years more, but of course cannot speak positively on this point. We have enquired of Messrs. Boyd & Co. the cost of a new boiler, but they are unable to give us an estimate at the moment, and they are of opinion that it would probably be cheaper to order the boiler from the makers in London, its cost should not exceed about £75 in full.

Of the 1,400 feet of "Eureka" hose appropriated to the "Victoria" engine, 800 feet are the property of the Council, and 600 feet, of this Company, of which 400 feet is in use, and *200 feet is quite new in store.*

The hose trucks are both in first-class order, and cost laid down here Tls. 673, they were bought through the Chief Engineer of the Fire Department, in New York, and could not now be replaced at same cost; these we are prepared to sell to the Council at a discount of 33⅓ per cent. on cost. It will not be necessary, at any rate for the present to provide an engine house for the "Victoria," we are prepared to house the engine as at present, subject to say three months' notice, at the nominal rent of Tl. 1 per month. In addition to the inventory of gear, &c., already handed to you, we have a number of helmets, belts, axes, and firemen's uniforms, which we would hand over to the Council free of charge.

We enclose a memo. shewing total cost of the engine, hose trucks, hose, &c., completing the entire equipment of the "Victoria" Fire Company for the information of the Council.

We are, dear Sir,
Yours faithfully,
GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents, China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.

J. A. POND, Esq.,
Secretary Shanghai Fire Commission,
Shanghai.

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Memorandum of price required by the China Fire Insurance Co., Ld., for the Steam Fire Engine "Victoria" with hose-reels, hose, &c., complete.

	Tls.
"Victoria" Fire Engine, complete as per Inventory handed Secretary of the Fire Commission $2,500 a 73...	1,825.00
Two American hose trucks cost Tls. 673 less a discount of 33⅓ per cent.	448.67
200 feet of new Eureka hose at Tls. 1.35 per foot.....	270.00
400 feet of Eureka hose (used) at Tls. 1.35 per foot=Tls. 540 less 50 per cent. discount	270.00
Helmets, Belts, Axes, Uniforms, &c.	nil.
	Tls. 2,813.67

Say two thousand eight hundred and thirteen taels, six mace, seven candareens.

GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents, China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.

Shanghai, 15th May, 1889.

GENTLEMEN,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 20th April, and in reply I am directed to inform your that acting upon the strong recommendation of the Chief Engineer of the Fire Brigade, and the members of the Fire Commission, the Council have decided to purchase the Victoria Engine, hose reels, and hose at the prices named in your letter of the 11th May, addressed to the Secretary of the Fire Commission.

I am, Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,
R. F. THORBURN,
Secretary.

Messrs. GIBB, LIVINGSTON & Co.,
Agents China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.

Volunteer Inspection.—The following correspondence is submitted and ordered to be published :—

Head Quarters,
Hongkong, 8th May, 1889.

SIR,—I have the honour to forward herewith copy of the report of Major V. Chater, 1st Battalion Argyll & Sutherland Highlanders, who recently carried out the Inspection of the Shanghai Volunteers, for the information of yourself and the Muncipal Council, and for transmission to the Officer Commanding the Corps.

It is very gratifying to notice the small number of absentees as compared with the previous Inspection, and every credit is due to Major Morrison for the very efficient state tha Corps has been brought to.

It is especially agreeable to me to be able to compliment the Officers, Non-commissioned Officers and men of the Shanghai Volunteers, upon the efficiency of their Corps, because I formerly had the pleasure of being intimately acquainted with many of its members when I was stationed at Shanghai in the year 1864.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
J. BEVAN EDWARDS,
Major-General Commanding in China.

The CHAIRMAN,
Municipal Council, Shanghai.

FROM MAJOR V. CHATER, ARGYLL AND SUTHERLAND HIGHLANDERS, TO THE D.A.A.G., HONGKONG.

Hongkong, 19th April, 1889.

SIR,—I have the honour to state that, in accordance with instructions, I proceeded to Shanghai on the 23rd March, to make the Annual Inspection of the Volunteer Force there.

The Force consists of a small Troop of Cavalry, armed with swords and carbines, a Battery of 4 guns (9 P., B.L.) and three Companies of Infantry, the whole under the command of Major Morrison.

As the actual Inspection did not take place until the 6th April, I had many opportunities of seeing each arm of the force on their own drill grounds, and the opinion I have formed of them is based as much on what I observed on these occasions, as on the 6th April.

The Volunteers, except for rifle shooting and on rare occasions, only train for one month in the year (the month before the Inspection) and turn out five afternoons in each week for drill. There are also special drills in the evening; and volley and independent firing take place in the early mornings.

The improvement in these daily drills was very marked during my stay.

The Officers of the three arms of this small force all take a very great interest in their work, and those in command of the Troop, Battery and Companies are able to instruct in a clear and soldierlike manner.

The subalterns and sergeants also that I was able to see, have a very fair knowledge of drill.

I saw one company, No. 3, and some gunners at target practice (both individual, volley and independent), and the shooting and individual positions of the men were fairly good.

On the 6th April, the Annual Inspection took place. The force mustered at the central Police barrack (field states attached) under command of Major Morrison.

The Light Horse under Captain Hough were well turned out.

The Battery under Captain Brodie Clarke made a good appearance; four ponies to each gun. Harness and guns in good order, and the gun detachments clear and steady. This Battery deserves great praise for the very efficient state to which they have been brought.

With the exception of six, which belong to the Battery, the ponies are those used daily for Municipal work (for water carts, &c.) and though the difficultics of turning these into useful Artillery animals, have been very great, they have been overcome, and on several occasions I saw the guns move steadily through narrow and crowded streets and enclosures and over broken ground. The gunners also do their work steadily.

The Infantry Companies were also well turned out on this occasion. The men silent and steady; and the rifles I saw were in good condition.

A Field Day afterwards took place on the Race Course. Owing to the heavy rain the ground was in a very bad state.

The Light Horse marched past well and steadily. Captain Hough is a thoroughly capable officer, and has the small troop well in hand. Their field movements at the trot were exceedingly well done, and the sword exercise fairly so.

The heaviness of the ground tried the Battery most severely, and the field movements were in consequence somewhat slow; but the guns were well brought into action and unlimbered and the ponies stood fire well.

The Infantry marched past in column very well, notwithstanding that the mud was nearly knee deep in places. The Manual and Firing Exercises were fairly done.

A few battalion movements under Major Morrison, Captains Bright, Dudgeon and Bredon were gone through, and then a small sham fight took place, a small portion of the infantry, two guns and the Light Horse being opposed to two guns and the Infantry. The latter moved rapidly and well in extended order, and kept up a good advance under fire; the officers shewing a fair knowledge of the mutual support required in an advance under fire.

In conclusion I have the honour to state that I consider the whole of this small force in an efficient state, and one likely to be of the greatest value if called upon to act in any disturbance in the Settlement.

The short-comings I observed in drill arise from want of practice, and from the impossibility of some men being in the rank at each drill during the training, as often as others.

I strongly urged on the Infantry the great necessity of practising officers and non-commisioned officers as much as possible in handling sections and squads, and I would urge each branch of the Force to continue to practice daily during the training, and as often as possible, the few simple movements that would be required if called out, in preference to show movements for an Inspecting Officer.

Major Morrison, the Commandant, has evidently done a great deal by his zeal and activity, and the knowledge of the drill and details of each arm that he possesses, is most marked.

Sergeant French of the Royal Artillery, and Colour Sergeant J. J. Scott of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, who were sent to assist in the training, gave every satisfaction.

I append a Field State and a letter from Major Morrison, together with a programme of the annual training for 1889.

The muster at the Inspection was, I believe, the best that has taken place for some time.

There were very few members absent "without leave," and those absent "with leave" were mostly in bad health.

I have, etc.,
(Signed) VERNON CHATER,
Major,
1st Bat. Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders.

True Copy,
M. S. BROWNWIGG,
Major, A.D.C., Act. Assist. Military Secretary.

Works Matters.—Report by the Acting Surveyor is submitted, giving particulars of the works completed during April, and of those now in progress :—

The following *works* have been *completed:*—

Roads.—Raising Dent Road, from Broadway to Seward Road.

The Foochow Road has been widened on the south side, near Honan Road, Property of S. D. Sassoon, Esq. Lot 26a. Area 0m. 0f. 4l. 9h.

Curb &c.—has been laid in the Kiukiang Road, from Yunnan to Defence Road.

Metalling Fearon Road, from Broadway to North Yangtsze Boad; and the Dixwell Road.

The *works in progress* are :—

Bridges.—Constructing an Aranga wood bridge across the Soochow Creek, to connect the Shansi and North Shansi Roads.

Erecting hardwood bridge across the Sinkei-pang Creek at end of the Yuen-fong Road.

Buildings.—Building New Police Station for Louza District.

Repairing, painting, &c., Inspector's and Local Postmaster's quarters, Central Station.

Drainage.—Constructing brick drains in the North Honan and Tsung-ming Roads.

Market Lot.—Laying Ningpo stone pavement to the Public Market, Nankin Road.

Public Garden.—Erecting an iron bandstand with platform and terrace.

Painting, &c., band stand, entrance gates, railings and seats.

Rifle Range.—Raising with mud the Rifle Butts to a height of forty feet and increasing width of base to eighty feet. Erecting stout bamboo fence at back of Rifle Butts.

Roads.—Raising with mud the Yuen-fong and North Szechuen Roads.

Chip-paving Hankow Road, and footpaths Defence Road, on east side, from Hankow to Foochow Roads.

Repairing chip-paving Fuhkien Road, between Sungkiang and Canton Roads.

Curb &c. is being laid in the Yunnan Road, between Nankin and Tientsin Roads; in front of the New Louza Station; and in the Dent Road, from Broadway to Seward Road.

Repairing.—Generally repairing the various roads in and outside the Settlements.

Hongkew Boundary.—Erecting bamboo towers for defining the western and northern boundaries of the Hongkew settlement.

The Meeting then adjourned.

YANGTSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LD.

The extraordinary general meeting of the Yangtsze Insurance Association, Ltd., was held on Thursday afternoon at the offices of Messrs. Russell & Co., the Agents. There were present Messrs. C. Vincent Smith, (Chairman), G. H. Wheeler, J. M. Young, E. O. Arbuthnot, R. Simpson Shaw, (Directors) H. Heyn, R. L. Smith, A. C. Hunter, D. C. Campbell, J. A. Stewart, J. Jaques. W. Buchanan, Jas. Buchanan, I. Joseph, T. Brown, W. S. Jackson, N. Pratt, T. Weir, A. McLeod, R. S. Harvey, F. C. Bishop, H. Dyer, J. Moffat, W. V. Drummond (legal adviser), and V. D'O. Wintle (Secretary), representing 7,081 shares.

The CHAIRMAN called upon Mr. Wintle to read the notice convening the meeting, and the resolution.

He did so, and the special resolution which was passed at the extraordinary general meeting on the 7th instant as follows :—

That it is desirable to reconstruct the Association with a Silver instead of a Gold Currency Capital, and that with a view thereto the Association be wound up voluntarily, on the first day of October 1889, and that George Henry Wheeler and Alfred Carroll Hunter, of Shanghai, be, and they are hereby appointed,

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liquidators for the purpose of such winding up.

That the said liquidators be, and they are hereby, authorised to consent to the Registration, under the Companies Ordinances of Hongkong, of a new Association to be named The Yangtsze Insurance Association, Limited, with a Memorandum and Articles of Association, which have already been prepared, with the privity and approval of the Directors of this Association.

That the draft Agreement submitted to this Meeting, and expressed to be made between this Association and its liquidators of the one part, and the Yang-tsze Insurance Association, Limited, of the other part, be, and the same is hereby, approved, and that the said liquidators be, and they are hereby, authorised to enter into an Agreement with such new Association, (when incorporated,) in the terms of the said draft, and to carry the same into effect.

The CHAIRMAN then said—Gentlemen, this formal meeting is simply called to comply with the requirements of the English Companies' Acts which stipulate that any resolution passed at an extraordinary general meeting is to be confirmed at an interval of not less than fourteen clear days from the date of the meeting at which such resolution was passed, and to submit to you for confirmation the resolution passed at the extraordinary meeting of 7th May. Unless any shareholders have any questions to ask, I will put the resolution proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. J. M. Young.

This having been done, it was found on a show of hands that 16 persons representing 124 votes and 5,936 shares voted in favour of the resolution, while 8 persons representing 23 votes and 1,145 shares voted against it.

The CHAIRMAN said that perhaps some one might wish a poll to be taken, in which case it would require five shareholders to make the request.

Mr. JAS. BUCHANAN said that perhaps it would be advisable to have a poll, but after he had been informed of the number of shares represented at the meeting as recorded above, he said he was satisfied.

The CHAIRMAN—Thank you. I have nothing more to say except to bring to your notice that any one dissenting from the resolution and wishing to take action should notify us (the Secretaries) within seven days. I thank you, gentlemen, very much for your presence.

This closed the business, but before separating Mr. McLEOD proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which was carried by acclamation.

Amusements.

THE AMY SHERWIN TROUPE AT THE LYCEUM.

We presume that we must attribute to the desire of the public to welcome their favourite Mr. Chiarini the limited attendance at the Theatre on Saturday, when Miss Sherwin and her troupe presented Balfe's delightful romantic opera, *The Bohemian Girl*. It was given more than once last year by the Willard troupe, and there are few, if any, English operas better known, some of the ballads it contains being among the most popular in the language. It is needless to say that the opera as presented on Saturday was a very different thing, from a musical point of view, to what it was as interpreted by Miss Hare, Miss Leamington, Mr. Fisher and Mr. Imano. The cast was strengthened by the assistance of Mr. D. Munday, who was very successful as an actor in *Florestein*, and of Mr. George Compton, who made his first appearance in Shanghai as *Count Arnheim*, and fairly astonished the audience, both as a singer and actor. We are very glad to hear that the management have succeeding in securing Mr. Compton's services in the forthcoming representation of *Faust;* there is no fear that the *rôle* of *Valentine* will not be more than adequately acted and sung by this most excellent of amateurs.

The first act of the *Bohemian Girl*, as given on Saturday, was little more than a prologue, for in the absence of a chorus it had to be considerably curtailed, and under any circumstances the real interest only begins with the first appearance of *Arline* (Miss Sherwin). Mr. Compton, however, shewed his quality at once by his admirable singing of what was made the opening air, *A Soldier's life*, his fine baritone voice, and evident acquaintance with the stage—though he was naturally somewhat nervous—eliciting hearty applause. From this the action went on to the duet, *Comrade, your hand*, between *Devilshoof* (Mr. Sherwin) and *Thaddeus* (Mr. Stockwell), capitally sung. The first success of Act II was Miss Sherwin's singing of *I dreamt that I dwelt in marble halls*, which was beautifully given; the purity and sweetness of her voice were never better displayed, and the expression with which she sings doubles the charm. It was enthusiastically applauded, as was the duet with *Thaddeus* that followed, *The wound upon thine arm*. Nothing could have been better than the effect of the blending of the two voices, both the best of their kinds that have ever been heard in Shanghai. Miss Fischer was encored in her song *Love smiles but to deceive*, and the quartet which closed the act was also encored, and the artists recalled after the drop scene fell.

The scene in *Count Arnheim's* office was made the third act, and opened with the favourite ballad, *The heart bow'd down by weight of woe*, which Mr. Compton sang with much feeling, and the finale, *Hold, hold*, which was sung as a quintet, went so well that it was encored. It is a great strain on the artists that they have to sing these *ensembles* without the aid of a chorus, but they sing so vigorously that, except as regards the spectacular effect, the chorus is hardly missed.

The fourth act of the opera is the best, and it went throughout excellently. In the opening scene Miss Sherwin introduced the delightful song with flute accompaniment, *Who's at my window?* and it is in these bird songs with their trills that this charming lady is unapproachable. The audience insisted on an encore, and were gratified with one verse of *Home, sweet home*, which must have had an unusual reality for the singer considering how very scantily she has been appreciated in Shanghai. Mr. Sherwin had a good opportunity of amusing his audience with his comic power in this act. Mr. Stockwell extended himself in *When other lips*, and the trio that follows, *Through the world*, was almost perfect. As the injured *Queen of the Gipsies*, Miss Fischer was magnificently majestic in *Heed the warning voice*. *Arline's* prayer to her father, *See at your feet*, was sung so touchingly that one forgot how conventional this introduction of a prayer into the closing scene of an opera is. The great air, *When the fair land of Poland*, was sung with great spirit by Mr. Stockwell, and he sings with such perfect ease, such entire absence of the effort with which many tenors draw attention to their range, that the audience often hardly realises what he is achieving. The whole opera was a thoroughly finished and artistic performance.

Gounod's *Faust* is by far the most popular of modern operas, and the announcement that it would be presented in full with such excellent vocalists as Miss Sherwin and her troupe and the amateur, Mr. Compton, in the leading *rôles*, another good amateur as *Wagner*, and a chorus comprising many of the best voices in the community, sufficed, as was certain, to fill the Lyceum on Tuesday night, notwithstanding the concurrent attractions of the Circus; and the audience saw one of the best operatic representations that have ever been given here. The Italian Companies that we had here some years ago gave as complete performances, but they could not produce such a chorus as Mr. Görlitz, the Manager, succeeded in enrolling. The *mise-en-scène*, aided by some of the pictures painted for the *tableaux of Faust* at the Country Club, was very good, the dresses were good, Mr. Clutsam accompanied with spirit, and the Town Band gave the required finish to the Soldiers' Chorus, and the presence of so large an audience reacted on the artists, and they played and sang with an energy and enjoyment which made the whole thing go off with enthusiasm. The "cuts" that were made in the score were only such as are usually made at home, and are necessary to bring the performance within reasonable limits, and even with them the curtain did not fall until considerably after midnight.

The only fault to be found with the first act was that the stage was a little too dark, but there was no fault to be found with the singing, Mr. Stockwell rejoicing in the music of *Faust*, and Mr. Sherwin being well-suited with the part of *Mephisto*, a very exacting part for a comparatively young actor. The vision of *Marguerite* at her wheel was very pretty, Miss Sherwin shewing herself at once to be the ideal *Marguerite* that we expected to see. The second act opened with the entry of *Valentine* and the chorus, which was loudly applauded. Mr. Compton was a thoroughly soldierly *Valentine*, Mr. Robertini a capital *Wagner* and Miss Fischer a most attractive Siebel, and their music went excellently. There was a little not unnatural nervousness on *Valentine's* part which made him now and then sing a little sharp, but he has such a charming voice, and so good a stage presence, and seems so much at his ease in his part, that he delighted the audience. The chorus was excellent in time, tune and volume, and its promptness and "snap" were wonderful, considering the few rehearsals it had had. *Mephistopheles'* song, *Clear the way for the Calf of Gold* was very well sung, and was taken fully quickly enough, the chorus to this too being very good. In the celebrated scene in which the tempter is baffled by the cross hilts of the soldiers' swords, a very difficult scene for *Mephistopheles*, Mr. Sherwin succeeded as well as could be expected. The entry of *Marguerite* on her way home from Church was the signal for a storm of applause, and the few bars that she has to sing, in response to *Faust's Highborn and lovely maid*, were deliciously given, and her walk across the stage after her refusal of *Faust's* escort, was in itself a lesson to amateurs. There was a hearty recall when the drop scene fell. The third act contains the most taking music in the opera, and it went splendidly throughout. Miss Fischer sang the ballad *Gentle flowers in the dew*, beautifully and dramatically, and it was encored, as it deserved to be. Mr. Stockwell's singing of the cavatina, *All hail, thou dwelling pure and lowly*, was perfection, the only drawback being the English words, which are so terribly unmusical compared with the Italian. Marguerite's scena and aria *The King of Thule* and the Jewel Song enchanted the house. As she sat at the spinning wheel, now spinning a little faster, now a little slower, as she admired herself when decked in the jewels, and knelt down in love with herself for her own beauty, her acting was perfect in its grace and naturalness, while her beautiful voice did justice to the composer, the part, and the acting. Miss Fischer was as good in *Dame Martha* as in *Siebel*, and the quartet between the four chief singers, and the final duet, *The hour is late*, were admirable, and the applause and recalls at the end of the act shewed the audience's delight. In the fourth act the Soldiers' chorus accompanied by the band, fairly brought down the house and it had to be repeated. The

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duet between *Valentine* and *Siebel* and the serenade of *Mephistopheles* were also very good, and the duet and the death of *Valentine* were splendid, the acting of Miss Sherwin and Mr. Compton in the latter being a piece of high tragedy which brought tears to the eyes of very many of the spectators. The chorus surpassed itself in this scene. Miss Sherwin's acting in the prison scene in the fifth act was intensely touching, and the enthusiasm of the audience when the curtain finally fell after her death was unquestionable. With so much on her shoulders, it was impossible that she could accept any of the suggested encores. We have omitted to mention the admirable management of the lights, which contributed so much to the general effect of the performance, which will be a memorable one in the operatic history of Shanghai. Miss Sherwin leaves us unfortunately after two more nights, to-night and Saturday; she would have no reason to complain of the coldness of Shanghai, if she could give us some more performances like that of *Faust*, and we have no doubt that she will be well supported to-night, and at her benefit on Saturday.

23rd May.

Thursday evening at the Lyceum Theatre was devoted to what was called a Grand Scotch night under the auspices of the St. Andrew's Society of Shanghai. We are sorry to say that the attendance was very small, but the majority of those present were Scotch, who are always eager to hear the music of their native land. Amongst them were the President, Hon. Secretary and several Committee members of the Society. The programme was attractive, though not by any means devoted to Scotch music exclusively; but all the numbers that were Scotch were most enthusiastically received by the small but very appreciative audience. Miss Amy Sherwin quite delighted her hearers by a very clever rendering of *Within a mile of Edinboro' town*, and was in consequence well recalled, responding at last with the fascinating little song *No, Sir!*, which she sings with the most delicious archness. Miss Minna Fischer gave *Robin Adair* and *Jock o'Hazeldean* capitally, was loudly applauded, and gave as an encore *The Banks of Allan Water*. Miss Fischer's sympathetic voice is heard to the greatest advantage in such songs, which she sings with rare feeling. But there was certainly no pretence to a Scotch accent about Miss Fischer!

Mr. Stockwell opened the programme with Balfe's duet *Excelsior*, Mr. Sherwin being associated with him, and subsequently sang *Macgregor's Gathering* and *Mary of Argyll*, the former being the more effective but both were well sung and enthusiastically received, Mr. Stockwell declining the encore that the audience so loudly demanded.

Mr. Lemmone played two flute solos with his accustomed ability, one being an arrangement of two Scotch airs, and the other an *American Rhapsodie*, which was somewhat inappropriate to the occasion. Mr. Clutsam played a Mazurka by Goddard, and Miss Amy Sherwin, Miss Minna Fischer and Mr. Stockwell sang the trio from Balfe's *Rose of Castille, I'm not the Queen*, which strangely enough appeared in the programme as the composition of Jules Benedict.

The first part closed with the ever welcome sestette from *Lucia*, in which Miss Amy Sherwin, Miss Fischer, and Messrs. Stockwell, Crompton, Robinson and Sherwin took part, and with such accomplished singers the rendering was, of course, faultless. In this Miss Sherwin distinguished herself by taking the upper D flat with the greatest ease. The audience would have heard it again with pleasure, but the singers contented themselves with bowing their acknowledgments when recalled.

The second part was devoted to the mad scene from *Lucia* which was given by Miss Amy Sherwin with powerful effect both musically and dramatically, the one fault about it being that it was too short for the audience, who loudly applauded and recalled the fair *cantatrice* at the fall of the curtain.

The whole performance was over at an earlier hour than usual, leaving the audience with a strong desire to imitate the conduct of Oliver Twist.

CHIARINI'S CIRCUS.

Signor Chiarini is alway a welcome visitor to Shanghai, for he never fails to bring with him a capital show, and his season here has long been regarded as one of our cherished institutions. The circus opened on Friday night to an immense audience, the mammoth mat pavilion where the unfortunate Russian troupe had lately been performing but which had been greatly enlarged, being filled to overflowing. The company which Signor Chiarini brings with him on this occasion is an unusually strong one all round, while the menagerie attached to the circus is this year increased by many important additions. The programme on Friday night contained fifteen items among which there were several novelties.

The first item "Equestrian Folly," introduced a very pleasing old-fashioned piece of Circus business, the artistes being Mdlle. Le Blonde, Miss Victoria Blanche, Miss E. Godfrey and Mr. W. B. Harmston. Mr. Peter Woodward's performance on the invisible wire was unusually clever and was loudly applauded. Young Gilbert fairly astonished the house by his daring riding and wonderful somersaults on horseback and showed that in him Sig. Chiarini has found a youthful rider of great promise. The act entitled "Sports of Atlas" was very clever, the fair *artiste*, Miss Minnie, receiving plenty of applause for her skilful management of the unstable globe. Master Frankie's dashing little bit of equestrianism in the Fox Hunting Act on two Manchurian ponies was as good as anything we have seen of the kind. Mr. H. Benham's extraordinary feats in balancing on a pyramid of chairs were well deserving of the hearty applause which he received on safely reaching the ground from his lofty and dangerous perch, and a pretty piece of equestrianism by Mdlle. Le Blonde and Mr. Geo. Harmston brought the first part of the programme to a very successful conclusion amidst the applause of the vast audience. The second part was if anything better than the first. The triple horizontal bar performance by the brothers De Vere, and the Acrobatic feats of the Australian Woodward Brothers being uncommonly good. Mdlle. Le Blonde's act on the bare back horse was rewarded with hearty applause while Mr. Geo. Harmston's dashing bare back act was a fine example of modern circus riding. Signor Chiarini must have been pleased at the very flattering reception with which the audience greeted him when he introduced the two handsome Manila ponies *Brilliant* and *Diamond* to their notice. A word must also be said for the amusement which "August and Imbecile" afforded to the older as well as to the juvenile portion of the audience. The Circus was well filled on Saturday afternoon and crowded at night with enthusiastic audiences, who were delighted with the performances.

SHANGHAI CRICKET CLUB.

The first match of the season by the Shanghai Cricket Club took place on Monday afternoon. The sides were as usual not over punctual in turning up, and it was half past 3 o'clock, instead of 3, when play was commenced and Mr. Wood went to the wickets with only four men, the places of absentees on the opposite side being filled by some of the C. C. boys. The Captain went in first having W. Bates for his partner to the bowling of Woodward and St. Croix. The batting partnership did not last long, and Bates only succeeded in putting on two singles and a double when he was bowled by St. Croix; one wicket down for 12. Orman then joined Wood, but his luck was not phenomenal, and St. Croix served him in a similar manner that he had served Bates, and so he only got 2, making two wickets down for 14. Drummond then went in and joined the Captain who was making things lively for the fielders, adding to his score 2's, 3's and 4's in rapid succession. Drummond also kept the fielders going for a time till Woodward bowled him after he had put on two 3's. a 2, 4 singles and a 4 making his score 16. Before this, Black had taken St. Croix's place, and while he was bowler to Wood, the latter sent a ball nicely into the hands of a substitute, and so put himself out with a score of 50 to his name. He retired to the tent amid loud applause on having so distinguished himself. W. H. Moule went on with Drummond who soon afterwards went out as mentioned above, his place being taken by Wade who was bowled by Woodward on his first ball, so that the score was not increased by his exertions; 5 wickets for 78. Saunders joined Moule and added a 4, a 2 and two 3's when he was bowled by Black; 6 wickets for 106. Lalcaca followed and having made a modest 1, succumbed to the bowling of Black, and Hearn went in. He met a similar fate, so that 8 wickets went down for 109. Abbott took Hearn's place and with Moule ran the score up rather briskly, both putting on a fair number of 3's and 2's when Moule who had seen so many of his partners fall met a like fate with a score of 42 against his name. Like his Captain, he too received a good round of applause. Abbott carried out his bat with 24 to his credit, making the score with extras, 157.

Mr. St. Croix, the Captain of the other side then sent in Smith and Evans, this was after 6 o'clock, and Saunders and Bates were the bowlers. Smith got 3 the first ball, following by a 2 for Evans. When Smith had made his score up to 6 by the addition of another 3, Saunders put an end to his luck, so that one wicket was down for 12; A. J. H. Moule took Smith's place and having made a 3 and a single was bowled by Saunders with 7 against his name and Marshall went in and was bowled by Saunders with 2 to his credit. The Captain went in and made 2, when, as it was getting dark, play ceased. The following are the scores:—

Mr. Wood's Team.

A. P. Wood c. Sub. b. Black	50
W. Bates b. St. Croix	4
J. Orman b do.	2
W. H. Drummond b. Woodward	16
W. H. Moule c. Black b. St. Croix	42
H. T. Wade b. Woodward	0
J. D. Saunders b. Black	12
C. Lalcaca b. do.	1
H. R. Hearn do.	1
F. J. Abbott not out	24
Extras	5
Total	157

Bowling Analysis.

	Balls.	Runs.	Maidens.	Wickets.
Woodward	130	58	4	2
St. Croix	70	40	2	3
Evans	15	11	0	0
Black	70	32	2	4
Marshall	25	7	1	0

Mr. St. Croix's Team.

F. Smith b. Saunders	6
E. Evans b. do.	7
H. C. Marshall b. do.	2
A. J. H. Moule b. Bates	4
F. A. St. Croix not out	2
C. A. Black not out	0
	21

Bowling Analysis.

Saunders	40	14	3	3
Bates	40	7	3	1

The Recreation Club opened their season with a pick-up match on Saturday afternoon and the sides proved to be very evenly matched, Peace's winning by the narrow majority of 5 runs. Peace won the toss and chose innings. A fair start was made the telegraph showing 67 for 4 wickets owing to good batting on the part of Cave, Wallace and

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Brumfield, the latter being very unfortunate in the way he got out; the tail could not do much, however, and the innings closed for 109. Crawford's side then went in and it looked as if they would be all out for a very small score, as only 14 runs were signalled with 6 wickets down. Rowland, Forsyth and Crawford however managed to knock up 84 runs between them, so the hopes of their side revived as it was thought they would pull the match out of the fire. The finish was very exciting, as the last man was out only five minutes before time.

The following are the scores :—

Mr. G. PEACE'S SIDE.

W. H. Campbell, c. Wheen, b. Another	2
W. Brumfield, h. w. b. Cameron	28
H. W. Cave, b Rowland	20
W. H. Purcell, c. Wheen, b. Another	7
G. Peace, b. Rowland	3
T. Wallace, not out	18
J. P. Cottam, c. and b. Crawford	1
A. C. Ramsay, b. Crawford	9
A. J. Cooper, c. Crawford, b. Another	1
G. Lyle, b. Another	0
J. T. M. Wheeley, b. Another	0
Extras	20
	109

Mr. D. W. CRAWFORD'S SIDE.

Dr. Forsyth, run out	14
C. J. Stewart, b. Wallace	6
A. N. Other, c. Peace, b. Wallace	0
P. Maynard, b. Campbell	1
E. Tuck, b. Campbell	0
G. Cameron, b. Campbell	2
E. Wheen, b. Wallace	0
A. H. Jaques, b. Peace	4
D. W. Crawford, not out	43
E. J. O Rowland, c. Wallace, b. Campbell	27
G. H. Purcell, b. Peace	0
W. B. Allen, b. Peace	0
Extras	7
	104

S.V.C. SPRING PRIZE MEETING.

Friday, 17th, Saturday, 18th, and Monday, 20th May.

6.—THE "STOREKEEPERS'" PRIZE.—Presented by the Storekeepers of Shanghai. Entrance Fee, $1. Ranges—200, 600, and 800 yards. Four Prizes.—The Prize, added to a portion of the Entrance Fees, and divided as follows :—First Prize, 40 per cent.; Second Prize, 30 per cent.; Third Prize, 20 per cent.; Fourth Prize, 10 per cent. Handicap.—Winners of a Gold Cross, 6 points; Winners of a First Prize at a Municipal Meeting in a Competition open to all members of the Corps, 5 points; Winners of a Second Prize in such a Competition, 3 points.

This Prize was competed for on the three days named. Gun. Cameron took the first prize, Priv. Gibson (handicapped 3) second prize, Priv. Eckhold (handicapped 5) third and Capt. Bright (handicapped 6) the fourth prize. The following are the full scores :—

	200 yds.	600 yds.	800 yds.	Tl.
Gun. Cameron	3444544-28	5435552-29	5444352-28	85
Capt. Bright	4454554-31	3455423-26	r454244-23	80
Priv. Gibson	4444554-30	3422325-21	3455434-28	79
,, Eckhold	4444443-27	3525455-27	455542r-25	79
Gun. Lamond	2444444-26	2545435-28	2333443-22	76
Priv. Goodfellow	4344554-29	r245342-20	3334544-26	75
Serg. Trueman	4442444-26	2353244-23	2434535-26	75
Priv. Jensen	3444334-25	4556534-26	2254343-23	74
Serg. Gould	4443244-25	22r2352-16	4553544-30	71
Priv. Granzella	4345545-27	226r552-16	54534r3-24	67
Serg. Edgar	5443542-27	442r424-20	0554222-20	67
Priv. Turnbull	5434434-27	4352252-23	3203r44-16	66
Lieut. Gilby	4443454-28	02r5002- 9	4443452-26	63
Priv. Coats	4453444-28	0032023-10	45r4345-25	63
Serg. Glass	5443454-29	r2?2222-10	2443433-23	62
,, Grant	4354443-27	r454255-25	3400300-10	62
Troop. Liddell	4444453-28	0052224-15	2322242-17	60
Priv. Roberts	3344454-27	052302r-12	3r44225-20	59
Gun. Lammert	4444444-28	02rr522-11	03r5534-20	59
Corp. Bullock	4443353-26	4005202-13	433r442-20	59
Serg. Bowman	4453544-29	r2254r2-15	2433903r-15	59
,, Wingrove	4442443-25	r520302-12	3r43443-21	58
BSM. Cameron	4544544-30	r33442r-16	r030033- 9	55
Priv. Vieira	2344453-25	3225522-21	r40r003- 7	53
,, Abbott	2443404-21	r203222-11	0230455-19	51
Troop. Haskell	4532434-25	2r20r42-10	2342030-14	49
,, Vale	4232443-22	0022542-15	r300522-12	49
Priv. Olsen	3335444-26	20r2205-11	2240206-10	47
Serg. King	2422334-20	0242002-10	2024404-16	46
Priv. Ivy	4434345-27	0500000- 5	00r40r2- 6	38
Troop. Franks	5404334-23	3204r42-15	0000000- 0	38

Tuesday, 21st May.

7.—THE "SKIRMISHING" CUP.—Presented by Lieut. C. S. Sharp. Open only to Non-commissioned Officers and Men. Entrance Fee, $1. Ranges—400, 300, and 200 yards. Position—Any. Targets—At 400 yards, 2nd class; at 300 and 200 yards, 3rd class; in each case whole of target to count. Each Competitor is allowed 3 minutes for the Competition. On the word "Commence" from Officer in charge of the Range, given at the 400 yards firing-point, the Competitor will load and fire 5 rounds at 400 yards, then double to 300 yards, where he will halt, load, and fire 5 rounds, and then double to 200 yards, where he will halt, load, and fire as many rounds as he can until the completion of the 3 minutes allowed, when the Officer in charge will give the command to "Cease Fire," on which the Competitor will at once unload and cease firing. The value of hits will be the same as in ordinary Competitions. Ricochets will be counted as of the same value as direct hits. Three Prizes.—First Prize, the Cup; Second and Third Prizes, a portion of the Entrance Fees, divided thus :—60 per cent. and 40 per cent. Handicap.—Competitors who have never fired at a previous Municipal Meeting will be allowed 5 points.

This Cup was competed for on Tuesday morning, and was won by Bat. Serg.-Major Cameron, with 71 points, Priv. Buchanan took second prize with 60 points, while Priv. Coats (allowed 5 points) became tie with Priv. Goodfellow for the third prize; the tie will be decided later on.

The following are the scores :—

		No. of shots fired.		Total Score.
B.S.M.	Cameron	22		71
Priv.	Buchanan	23		60
,,	Goodfellow	15		57
,,	Roberts	24		56
Sergt.	Bowman	21		55
,,	Trueman	20		54
Priv.	Coats	20		52
Gun.	Cameron	21		52
Sergt.	Glass	21		52
Priv.	Jensen	19		52
,,	Gibson	18		51
Sergt.	Edgar	19		50
Priv.	John	19		48
Corp.	Bullock	18		47
Gun.	Lammert	22		46
,,	Crank	25		46
Priv.	Granzella	17		44
,,	Stahlberg	18		41
Sergt.	Wingrove	20		41
Corp.	Pirie	22		39
Priv.	Turnbull	16		39
Sergt.	Gould	22		38
Corp.	Hall	15		38
Priv.	Olsen	23		33
,,	Culshaw	22		30
,,	Lister	20		21
Troop.	Liddell	16		21
Sergt.	King	19		17

Wednesday, 22nd May.

8.—THE "VOLLEY-FIRING" PRIZE.—A Team or Teams of Ten (excluding Commissioned Officers) from each Company, Battery, and Troop. Entrance Fee, $10 per Team. Range—500 yards. Position—Prone, in extended order. Each Team will fire *five* Volleys (with Rifles) at ordinary N.R.A. Second Class Targets, and the necessary words of command will be given by the Captain of the Team. The value of hits will be the same as in individual Competitions. Ricochets will be counted as of the same value as direct hits. A Team may be disqualified if any of its Members fire before the word of command. Points, not exceeding five, may be deducted by the Officer in charge of the Range for each Volley which in his opinion is badly delivered. No points will be allowed to Teams not of the proper numerical strength. One Prize (the Entrance Fees.)—To be given to the Team making the highest score.

This Prize was competed for on Wednesday morning in fine weather, and brought four teams to the range, one from each of the three Infantry Companies and one from the Artillery. Though the distance had been extended this meeting from 400 to 500 yards, the proportion of hits to shots showed no material falling-off when compared with former similar competitions; indeed, the shooting generally, and especially the delivery of the volleys, bore evidence of marked improvement. No. 3 Company team won the prize with 42 hits and 138 points. The Captains of the respective teams were Lieut. Lanning and Captains Bright, Dudgeon and Clarke. Capt. Hough was in charge of the range and acted as umpire. The following are the scores of the respective teams :—

	Hits.	Bulls.	Centres.	Magpies.	Outers.	Scores.
No. 3 Co. Team.						
Sergt. Bowman ...						
,, Edgar ...						
,, Gould						
Corp. Oliveira ...						
Priv. Culshaw ...						
,, Ommundsen						
,, Roalf						
,, Tilzey						
,, Turnbull ...						
,, Vieira	42	10	9	6	17	138
No. 2 Co. Team.						
Sergt. Trueman ..						
Corp. Coulthard..						
,, Pirie.....						
Priv. Coats						
,, Eckhold ...						
,, Goodfellow						
,, John.....						
,, Morrison ...						
,, Roberts ...						
,, Stahlberg..	40	8	8	11	13	131
No. 1 Co. Team.						
Sergt. Glass						
,, King						
,, Wingrove ..						
Corp. Hall.....						
Priv. Abbott.....						
,, Buchanan..						
,, Cockey.....						
,, Gibson						
,, Granzella...						
,, Jensen	40	7	11	5	17	128
Artillery Team.						
B.S.M. Cameron..						
Sergt. Grant						
Corp. Bullock ...						
Driv. Bourke.....						
Gun. Cameron ...						
,, Crank						
,, Keeling ...						
,, Lammert ...						
,, Murphy ...						
,, Watts	35	7	8	7	13	114

Thursday, 23rd May.

9.—THE "GRIFFINS'" PRIZE.—Presented by the Opium Merchants of Shanghai. Open to Members of the Corps who have entered for one at least of the Competitions numbered 1 to 6 at this Meeting and who have never won a Prize in any previous Battalion Competition, restricted or unrestricted (or a First Prize—including the Nursery Aggregate—at this Meeting.) Entrance Fee, $1. Ranges—200 and 500 yards. Four Prizes.—The Prize, added to a portion of the Entrance Fees, and divided as follows :—First Prize, 40 per cent.; Second Prize, 30 per cent.; Third Prize, 20 per cent.; Fourth Prize, 10 per ccnt.

The above competition took place on Thursday. Priv. Coats, with a total of 54 points, took the first prize, Gun. Crank second, Priv. Granzella third, and Priv. Cockey fourth prize. The following are the full scores :—

	200 yds.	500 yds.	Tl.
Priv. Coats	3234554-26	55542r5-28	54
Gun. Crank	3344545-27	2533544-25	53
Priv. Granzella	2454544-28	0242545-22	50
,, Cockey	4344034-22	4r54525-25	47
,, Roalf	3433355-26	5242242-21	47
,, Ivy	3542423-23	2445r53-23	46
Serg. Edgar	4433532-24	2422453-22	46
Priv. Wilkinson	0442354-22	32353r4-20	42
,, Haimovitch	3r35242-19	25r2r54-15	37
Gun. Lammert	4444454-29	0202222- 8	37
Priv. Woodward	3233344-22	0222232-13	35
Troop. Franks	0354440-20	0020325-12	32

Friday, 24th May.

10.—THE "CARBINE" PRIZE.—Presented by the Members of the Municipal Council of Shanghai. Open to Members of the Light Horse and Artillery. Entrance Fee, $1. Ranges—200 and 400 yards. Position—Kneeling at 200, prone at 400 yards. Four

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Prizes.—The Prize, added to a portion of the Entrance Fees, and divided as follows:—First Prize, 40 per cent.; Second Prize, 30 per cent.; Third Prize, 20 per cent.; Fourth Prize, 10 per cent. Handicap.—Winners of a Gold Cross or of a First Prize at a Municipal Meeting in a Competition open to all members of the Corps, or a First Prize in a Carbine Competition at a Municipal Meeting, 5 points; Winners of a Second Prize in one of such Competitions, 3 points.

The above Prize was competed for on Friday. Gun. Lamond was the winner of the first prize, Gun. Bullock second, Gun. Cameron third, and Troop. Hegnauer fourth, the others with higher scores being handicapped. The following are the scores:—

		200 yds.	400 yds.	Tl.
Gun.	Lamond	4545544-31	2245545-27	58
,,	Bullock	2455445-29	5323535-26	55
,,	Cameron	4444344-27	3355335-27	54
,,	Wilson	4334435-23	4545543-30	53
Troop.	Vale	5544434-29	2442335-23	52
B.S.M.	Cameron	4455444-30	2224443-21	51
Troop.	Haskell	3344444-26	4334334-24	50
,,	Hegnauer	4524422-23	2425445-26	49
,,	Liddell	3225443-23	4523444-26	49
Gun.	Crank	2244332-20	0554545-26	48
Driv.	Allen	3234044-20	5454434-24	44
Gun.	Lammert	2244440-26	2354522-23	43
Troop.	Franks	4324340-20	0524443-22	42
Serg.	Grant	4423344-24	2200424-14	38

AGGREGATE PRIZES.

11.—The "Gold Cross."—The Gold Cross of the Meeting, value one-fourth of the Entrance Fees for Competitions Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6, will be won by the Competitor whose score in those Competitions makes the highest aggregate.

It will be seen below that Priv. Eckhold, of No. 2 Co., won the Gold Cross of the Meeting with an aggregate of 315 points. The following are the ten highest aggregate scores:—

		Agg. scores.
Priv.	Eckhold	315
Capt.	Bright	299
Priv.	Goodfellow	299
Sergt.	Gould	291
,,	Trueman	285
Gun.	Cameron	285
Sergt.	Bowman	281
B.S.M.	Cameron	278
Lieut.	Gilby	276
Serg.	Glass	272

12.—The "Griffins' Aggregate" Prizes.—Value $45, viz., $20 presented by the Rev. H. C. Hodges (Chaplain of the Corps), added to the Entrance Fees and (if necessary) a sum from the S.V.C. Prize Fund. Entrance Fee, $1. Open to those only who are entitled to enter for Competition No. 9. The "Griffins' Aggregate Prizes" will be won by the four Competitors (excluding the Winner of the "Griffins'") whose respective scores in Competitions Nos. 1, 4, 5, and 9 make the highest aggregates.

WINNERS:

		Agg. Score.		
Gun.	Lammert	203	1st	Prize.
Priv.	Granzella	198	2nd	,,
Sergt.	Edgar	170	3rd	,,
Priv.	Wilkinson	166	4th	,,

13.—The "Consolation Aggregate" Prizes. A forced Entry for all Competitors. The "Consolation Aggregates" will be won by the seven Competitors (excluding the Winner of the Gold Cross, the Winners of a First or Second Prize, the Winner of two Third Prizes, and the Winner of the First Prize in the "Griffins' Aggregate," during this Meeting (whose respective scores in Competitions Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, and 6 make the highest aggregates. Entrance Fee, $1. Seven prizes.

Capt. Bright, 1st prize; Sergt. Gould, 2nd; Sergt. Trueman, 3rd; Sergt. Bowman, 4th; Lieut. Gilby, 5th; Sergt. Glass, 6th; Priv. Turnbull, 7th prize.

TIENTSIN RACES.

First Day.

Thursday, 16th May, 1889.

1.—Tzu-chu-lin Stakes.—Value $100.—*Half-a-mile.*

Mr. Inglish's brown *Hotspur* 1
,, von Hanneken's black *Ohnesorg* 2
,, Sebrof's cream *Golden Fleece* 3
,, Detring's grey *Herzog* 0
,, Hillier's grey *Veteran* 0
,, McRill's bay *Lion* 0

Won by a neck.—Time, 1min. 2¾secs.

2.—Maiden Plate.—Value Tls. 200.—*One mile.*

Mr. Sebrof's dun *Golden Hope* 1
,, Ballauf's roan *Thunichtgut* 2
Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's grey *Dyr* 3
Mr. von Hanneken's grey *Frou-frou* 0
,, Chamot's dark grey *Bornibus* 0
,, Alexander's white *Mercury* 0
,, Michel's brown *Sultan* 0

Won by half a length. *Dyr* a bad third.—Time 2min. 6secs.

3.—Visitors' Cup.—Value ——.—*One mile and a quarter.*

Mr. Detring's white *Markyraf* 1
,, von Hanneken's bay *Sonnenstrahl* 2
,, Ballauf's white *Lump* (late *Og*) 3
,, Vaucher's bay *Glenliret* 0
,, Sebrof's chestnut *Golden Venture* 0

Won easily by 2 lengths.—Time, 2min. 44½sec.

4.—Peiho Stakes.—Value $100.—*Three-quarters of a mile.*

Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's bay *Gerold* 1
Mr. Detring's grey *Herzog* 2
,, Hillier's grey *Veteran* 3
,, Sebrof's grey *Undaunted* 0

Won easily by about 5 lengths.—Time, 1min. 36½sec.

5.—Northern Cup.—Value Tls. 100.—*One mile and a half.*

Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's dun *Byron* 1
Mr. von Hanneken's grey *Frou-frou* 2
,, Chamot's dark grey *Bornibus* 3
,, Ballauf's dun *Tangenichts* (late *Sonnenlicht*) 0

Won by half a length.—*Frou-frou* 4 lengths ahead of *Bornibus*.—Time, 3min. 25secs.

6.—Viceroy's Cup.—Value, Tls. 200.—*Two miles.*

Mr. Detring's dun *Erzherzog* 1
,, John's chestnut *Philosopher* 2
Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's bay *Ascold* 3
Mr. von Hanneken's bay *Sonnenstrahl* 0
,, McDonald's chestnut *Tai Poo-chieh* ... 0

Won by 2 lengths.—Time, 4min. 30¼sec.

7.—Steeplechase.—*About two miles and a quarter.*

Mr. Detring's black *Grossherzog* 1
,, Alexander's grey *Mockery* 2
,, Mordskerl's chestnut *Brilliant* 3

Won very easily, the other ponies refused several times.

Second Day.

Friday, 17th May, 1889.

1.—Tientsin Derby.—A sweepstakes of Tls. 10 each with Tls. 150 added.—*One mile and a half.*

Mr. Sebrof's dun *Golden Hope* 1
Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's dun *Dyr* 2
Mr. Ballauf's roan *Thunichtgut* 3
,, McDonald's chestnut *Tai Poo-chieh* .. 0
,, Alexander's white *Mercury* 0
,, Chamot's dark grey *Bornibus* 0
,, Michel's brown *Sultan* 0

Won by half a length. Time, 3min. 18secs.

2.—Syndicate Cup.—*One mile and a half.*

Mr. von Hanneken's bay *Sonnenstrahl* 1
,, John's chestnut *Philosopher* 2
Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's chestnut *Blazer* .. 3
,, ,, ,, dun *Byron* 0
Mr. Detring's grey *Herzog* 0

Sonnenstrahl kept well in hand was brought up at the ¾-mile post and won by half a length. *Byron* knocked out of the course by *Philosopher*.—Time, 2min. 18½sec.

3.—Cavaliers' Cup.—A Sweepstakes with Tls. 50 added.—*One mile and a quarter.*

Mr. Detring's black *Grossherzog* 1
Capt. Richter's black *Teufel* 2
Mr. von Hanneken's black *Ohnesorg* 3
,, Celt's chestnut *Dreamland* 0

Won hands down.—Time, 2min. 52sec.

4.—Mongol Cup.—Value Tls. 100.—*Three-quarters of a mile.*

Mr. Ballauf's dun *Taugenicht* 1
,, Hillier's bay *Fugitive* 2
,, Sebrof's cream *Golden Fleece* 3

An easy victory for *Taugenicht*.—Time, 1min. 35secs.

5.—Taotai's Cup.—Value, $100.—*One mile.*

Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's bay *Gerold* 1
Mr. Detring's white *Markyraf* 2
,, Sebrof's grey *Undaunted* 3
,, Hillier's grey *Veteran* 0

Markgraf left on the post but came in second to *Gerold* first; won easily.—Time, 2min. 13½sec.

6.—Tientsin Stakes.—*One mile and three-quarters.*

Mr. von Hanneken's bay *Sonnenstrahl* 1
,, Vaucher's bay *Glenliret* 2
,, Ballauf's white *Lump* (late *Og*) 3
Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's bay *Ascold* 0
Mr. Chamot's dark grey *Bornibus* 0
,, Detring's dun *Erzherzog* 0
,, McDonald's chestnut *Tai Poo-chieh* ... 0
,, Michel's brown *Sultan* 0

Won by half a length.—Time, 3min. 57secs.

Third Day.

Saturday, 18th May, 1889.

1.—A Sweepstakes of Tls. 10 each with Tls. 50 added.—*One mile and a half.*

Mr. Alexander's brown *Myth* 1
,, John's chestnut *Philosopher* 2
Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's grey *Dyr* 3
Mr. Sebrof's chestnut *Golden Venture* 0
,, Detring's grey *Herzog* 0
,, von Hanneken's bay *Sonnenstrahl* 0
,, Ballauf's white *Lump* (late *Og*) 0

Mr. Sebrof declared to win with *Golden Venture*. Won by a head.—Time 3min. 17secs.

2.—Racing Stakes.—Value Tls. 100.—*One mile.*

Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's bay *Ascold* 1
Mr. Chamot's dark grey *Bornibus* 2
,, Ballauf's dun *Tangenichts* (late *Sonnenlicht*) 3
,, Alexander's white *Mercury* 0

Won easily.—Time, 2min. 12sec.

3.—Merchant Steamers' Cup.—Value ——.—*One mile and a quarter.*

Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's chestnut *Blazer* .. 1
Mr. Detring's white *Markyraf* 2
,, Michel's brown *Sultan* 3
,, McDonald's chestnut *Tai Poo-chieh* ... 0

Won easily by three lengths.—Time, 2 min. 45½ secs.

4.—Consolation Stakes.—Value Tls. 150. *One mile and a quarter.*

Mr. Ballauf's roan *Thunichtgut* 1
,, Detring's grey *Herzog* 2
Messrs. Startseff and Irwin's grey *Dyr* 3
Mr. Chamot's dark grey *Bornibus* 0
,, von Hanneken's grey *Frou-frou* 0
,, Vaucher's bay *Glenliret* 0

Won fairly easily.—Time, 2min. 12½secs.

5.—Champion Stakes.—Value Tls. 200.—*One mile and a quarter.*

Mr. Alexander's brown *Myth* 1
Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's bay *Blazer* 2
Mr. von Hanneken's bay *Sonnenstrahl* 3
Messrs. Startseff & Irwin's bay *Gerold* 0
Mr. Sebrof's dun *Golden Hope* 0

Won by a length, second and third very close.—Time, 2min. 42¼secs.

6.—Handicap Steeplechase.—A Sweepstakes with Tls. 50 added.—*Over a course about two miles and a quarter.*

Mr. Detring's black *Grossherzog* 1
,, John's chestnut *Philosopher* 2
,, Detring's chestnut *Landgraf* 3
,, Mordskerl's chestnut *Brilliant* 0
,, Alexander's grey *Mockery* 0

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Very good race between *Grossherzog* and *Philosopher*. Won by a neck at the post; the other ponies went badly.

7.—MAFOOS' RACE.—*One mile and a quarter.* Catch weights.

Mr. Vaucher's *Glenlivet* 1
,, Ballauf's *Taugenicht* 2
,, Detring's *Herzog* 3

Nine started.—Time, 2min. 42secs.

Correspondence.

THE FAMINE.

The letter from the Vicar Apostolic of Manchuria, of which the following is a translation, has been kindly handed us by M. Wagner, Consul General for France:—

Payensousou, 25th April 1889.

SIR,—A letter from Abbé Martinet, Procureur des Missions Etrangères, brings me the good news that a sum of four hundred dollars, due to your generous initiative, has been placed at my disposition for the relief of the famine victims in Manchuria. I hasten to thank you, and to tell you at the same time how precious this succour is to a mass of unfortunates who would die of want, but for the charity of the public.

I am writing you from Payensousou, in the province of Tsi-tsi-har, and I have just visited the province of Ghirin. Everywhere in the three provinces of Manchuria, in the midst of a population of about fifteen millions, I have encountered the most horrible misery. Everywhere the crops have failed; and especially here, in the extreme north, that which the weeds have spared has been ruined by the premature frosts. The unfortunate inhabitants are reduced to the last extremity; there are very few who can procure millet; the greater number are reduced to feeding on bran, roots, and rubbish of all kinds. Many of the poor creatures, at the end of their resources, kill themselves in their despair. Here it is the father of the family who throws his children into a well, and then follows them himself; there, entire families, father, mother, and children, hang themselves to escape the tortures of hunger. In a word, it is misery and suffering is the most heart-rending forms. Scattered everywhere throughout this vast territory larger than France, my twenty-six missionaries, I can honestly say, are spending themselves in purse and person, to come to the assistance of the unfortunates, be they Christians or pagans, who, in constantly increasing numbers, come to implore some aid just to keep them alive, as they say. It is impossible to remain unmoved in the face of such sufferings, and so we are devoting everything to the relief of the starving. Daily and from all sides come the cries of distress, begging me to have pity on these unfortunates. How I wish, sir, that I were rich, but alas! the mission has exhausted its last resources. Ought we to see perishing of hunger these thousands and thousands of unfortunates whose only hope is in the charity of the public? Pardon me if, while expressing to you our most lively gratitude to the generous contributors, I take the liberty of adding our hope that their charity will again assist in saving some of these poor creatures from a horrible death.

Believe me to be, Sir, with the most profound gratitude,

Yours, etc.,

L. H. A. RAQUIT,

Bishop, Vicar Apostolic of Manchuria.

To
The CONSUL-GENERAL for the Republic of France,
Shanghai.

The original of the following letter from General Mesny appears to have been lost in the native post, but the General has kindly sent us a copy from Amoy, at which port he touched on his way to Canton:—

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

DEAR SIR,—Since writing to you last I have visited most of the famine districts north of the Yangtze river that require relief. The whole country with little exception appears fine and fertile, yet strange to say, the people are all excessively poor, and live in the most wretched condition it is possible to imagine. Ninety per cent of all the people I saw were clad in cotton rags, not even good enough to make floor-mops of. They live in mud hovels worse than the poorest English cowhouse I ever saw. They live on food far inferior to that which the United States Consul at Canton calls garbage, yet these people are gentle and industrious, work all the year round without ceasing seven days in the week, and 16 or 18 hours out of every 24. Most of them ascribe their poverty to the late rebellion, some of them declare that the study of the Confucian doctrines has so impoverished them, but I believe most of the poverty to be due to the lack of municipal institutions. Everything to be done is left to the local magistrate, who is a stranger in the province, and has no manner of interest in the welfare of the people beyond that of their having good crops to enable them to pay the land tax in full without grumbling. Occasionally however one does meet with a sort of local John Howard. Just now there is such a person named Hsü Shao-hêng, who is Deputy Commissioner of Salt Revenue Customs at Shih Erh-wei, in the prefecture of Yang-chow Fu. He usually lives in the large Temple called the Wu-Tang-Hsin-Kung, in the Tung Kuan Ta Chieh or Eastern Suburbs of Yang-chow Fu city. He formerly attained the rank of General, *Tsung-Ping-Kuan*, in the army but afterwards changed into the Salt Revenue Service, with the [illegible] Class Rank. This person does much good locally; I am assured that he has built many Temples, and feeds over 2,000 persons daily. He is about to build a Temple in honour of the True God, to be called the Chên Shêng Tang, and would no doubt do many other useful works did he but know how. Cutting canals and digging wells are the things I recommended him to do so as to ensure a constant supply of water in the plains of Yang-chow Fu. He has been entrusted with famine relief funds for distribution in the counties of I-chêng and Kan-chüan, both in the prefecture of Yang-chow Fu, and a better man could hardly have been found. He is being ably assisted by the local magistrates of both those counties and the prefect of Yang-chow Fu. The people are grateful for the timely relief they have obtained, and hopeful of the coming spring crops.

Crossing the border of Kiangsu, into Anhui province, I passed into the county of Tien-ch'ang Hsien one of the three counties in the district of Ssŭ-chow, Chih-li Chow. There the people were suffering the greatest misery and complained bitterly of the evil doings of four of the local notables, who had been entrusted by the magistrate with the distribution of grain reserved in the public granaries during years of abundance, called Fêng Nien.

The grain had been voluntarily contributed by the people, in former years, when the crops were good, to be kept in reserve for their use in times of famine, and now they were being cheated out of their rights. At Ch'u Chou another Chih-li Chow or district in Anhui Province, the district magistrate appears to have been made the victim of misplaced confidence by some local banker. The people were loud in their complaints of a want of discretion on the part of the district magistrate. At Lu-ho Hsien in the prefecture of Chiang-ning Fu, the people had sufferced intensely but had been relieved to a certain extent in a manner which had proved satisfactory, that is each owner of oxen had received two Mexican dollars for every ox kept alive and was promised more later if the ox was produced alive. This plan appears to have been adopted first at Ch'u-yung Hsien also in Chiang-ning Fu prefecture but on the south of the river Yangtze, by a Mr. Wong, who had distributed 2 strings of cash for each ox marked by a nick on the horns, and promised one more string of cash on production of that ox in the third moon.

In the prefecture of Lü-chou Fu, the county of Ho-fei Hsien had suffered intensely; over 700,000 persons required relief, and over 400,000 of them had been relieved last year by the timely good management of the prefect of Lü-chou Fu, Huang Yun, whose energy and discretion deserved the highest praise for having induced his people to stay at home rather than let then emigrate *en masse* as was at one time their avowed intention. Thousands of them had actually left the county of Ho-fei, but returned on being assured by proclamations from the prefect that their necessities would assuredly be relieved.

Famine affairs in Ying-chou Fu are also satisfactory. There, the officials had received ample funds which they had distributed in a manner which was considered fair, and the people did not complain.

Things are not quite so bright in this Fêng-yang Fu prefecture however. Loud and bitter are the complaints of the people of Ting-yüan Hsien. In that county, the land tax which had been remitted by an act of Imperial Grace was been *lecied* by the newly appointed magistrate, named Lin, a native of Hunan. The people were compelled to sell their oxen and farm implements to pay the land tax unjustly levied. This was done by many of magistrate, both unsuccessfully, excepting in one or two parishes where some of the notables had combined, and refused to pay the unlawful exaction. Sixty Elders from various villages had taken a petition to the prefect at Fêng-yang Fu, but that functionary had failed to give them satisfaction. They had attempted to appeal to the Territorial Tao-tai but those concerned had managed to frustate their plans, so they had returned to Ting-yüan Hsien, to brood over their misfortunes, and probably to concoct some plans which may give the local authorities a great deal of trouble. It is now reported that it is not safe to travel with anything valuable in that county, the people may thus be compelled to redress their own wrongs, in their own rude way, by rebellion. Had the prefect paid attention to the complainants he might have easily redressed their wrongs, by reporting the conduct of the offending magistrate, having him removed and made to disgorge the immense sums he has extorted from the suffering people. When the taxes of any locality have been remitted by Imperial Decree, the Board of Revenue does not require the magistrate to make good the deficit thus created in the exchequer, so the taxes thus levied by the magistrate of Ting-yüan Hsien will not be required of him at Peking or by the Treasurer of the province unless complaint is made of his unlawful conduct. Meanwhile benevolent people throughout the universe are being publicly invited to subscribe to the famine relief funds intended for these very same people, whom the magistrate of Ting-yüan Hsien is thus unlawfully denuding of the little they have left.

At Huai-yüan Hsien, the people complained that the officials had given them husks instead of grain when distributing relief. The facts appear to be that the grain distributed had a much larger proportion of husks than usual, 5 bushels of paddy giving only 1½ bushels of rice, which is of course far below the usual

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average. Some people refused to accept this kind of relief. Here at Lin-huai Kuan, 20 *li* from the Prefectural city of Fêng-yang Fu, I find a Taotai, named Kuei Sung-ching, formerly territorial Taotai of the Huai-yang circuit in Kiangsu province. This official bears an excellent reputation, and the people of this county, Fêng-yang Hsien, are loud in their praise of the manner in which their wants have been relieved by this Kuei Taotai, and the local county magistrate named Hsiung. A peasant told me this morning on my enquiring of him "the grain we have received here is of good quality. I got rice and there were 33 catties to the *tou*, or bushel; those that received wheat also had good measure. In some places I have heard that a small measure was used half this size, so that two *tou* were not equal to our one."

Kuei Taotai has now received the funds contributed through the North-China Famine Relief Committee at Shanghai, and will no doubt exercise the same admirable discretion in distributing this special contribution.

The cash, thirty odd thousand strings, equal to Tls. 2,000, arrived here in six junks, in charge of an expectant Magistrate of the Chou class, named Wong Shao-Hsien, a native of Huang-Chou Fu, in Hu-pei province, and is now being discharged and delivered to the Wei Yuans of Kuei Taotai. Considering the present shallowness of the water in the Hung-tsê Lake, the succession of adverse winds, and the clumsiness of the junks, Mr. Wong deserves great credit for delivering the cash in such excellent order, as it had to be handled several times on the journey in order to lighten the junks so that they might get over the shallows. Care had to be taken every time the cash was handled, that the bags were not broken open, or carried away altogether. He was thirty-two days on the journey exposed to all manner of [illegible] and dangers, yet he has remember bearing of a "foul" tally. I some time ago went in charge of a lot of cash from Shanghai to Peking, and delivered his tally 6,000 strings short, say $6,000. No doubt the admirable manner in which the Taotai of Shanghai had the cash done up in gunny-bags, each containing 20 strings, made it much easier to keep the run of them than if the cash had been loose in strings of 1,000 each, as usual. Yet when we take into consideration that a gunny-bag can easily be cut open and sewn up again it must be admitted that the officer in charge together with his staff of assistants must have been very careful indeed.

His Excellency the Viceroy is fortunate in having such officials at his service for famine relief work. The unjust dealings of the officials employed by him on famine relief work in Shansi during the great famine, were probably still fresh in the mind of His Excellency when he made this selection of relief officers. On that occasion millions of people died of starvation whilst a great number of unrighteous officials and underlings enriched themselves from the funds entrusted to their care for distribution. No doubt but a great number of persons have died during this late double calamity of flood and drought, in the viceregal jurisdiction of the Liang-kiang, still it must be admitted that millions have been saved by the timely succour afforded them from various quarters. Had the 700,000 needy peasants of Ho-fei Hsien been allowed to leave their homes and roam about the country in search of food, there is great probability that an insurrection would have been the result. The peasants of other counties would have armed themselves to resist the invaders, and the invaders, urged by hunger, would no doubt have resorted to violence to obtain the food needed to sustain life. The present dynasty must again be congratulated on having escaped such a danger as a civil war, the usual results of an outbreak of the Yellow River, even when unaccompained by the additional calamity of widespread drought.

Hoping this will reach you in safety, I have the honour to remain

Yours faithfully,

W. Mesny.

Lin-Huai Kuan, port of Fêng-Yang Fu,
An-hui Province.
6th April, 1889.

Sir,—No sooner had I been trained into the initiatory rites of famine work by my friend Mr. Laughlin, than he took up his bed, his satchel and his testament, and started for work among the Christians committed to his charge. He left behind the puzzles of account books and a vast work, and supposed that in some way the work would not suffer by his absence—a vain conjecture.

A scattered work among 156 villages and nearly 29,000 persons, with money to be distributed from four centres—this the picture in general. Some 28 miles from north to south, and 40 miles from south-west to north-west—this the picture in particular. Certainly a pleasant task for a novice! I was assured, however, that nothing difficult remained, and of course such a daring assertion had some show of reason, or a worthy missionary would never have been guilty of its utterance. But let us see.

An official had just arrived in the district, direct from Chefoo, with supplies of money and grain. Rumours were afloat and expectations were rising. But what were the facts, and who was the man, and what the intentions? In solution of this question, Dr. Neal and myself, the two foreigners in this district of Lo-an, held different conferences with said official by the name of Chou Mien, in charge of the Telegraph Office at Chefoo. The result was eminently satisfactory. It appeared that in addition to the rush of silver from foreigners, there was of a sudden a similar rush from the [illegible] only a few villages unrelieved by the foreign aid, and these were too few for the native aid. Eight or ten thousand taels have come to this district from the Emperor, and some 50,000 taels with grain have come to four needy districts from private subscription, committed to the management of Mr. Chou. The plan adopted was as follows:—From the extra foreign aid Dr. Neal and myself were to add on the names of the returned refugees within the limit of 10,000, these to be aided like the rest on our list at 10 large cash per day up to the first part of June. The official was to relieve the villages unrelieved by us, and in addition he was to distribute grain to those on our list at the rate of ten catties for the grown and five for the young. While in some places foreigners and Chinese officials have met with friction in famine-relief work, here was a happy experience of harmony, co-operation and friendliness.

The plan was formed in a few minutes, but the work was still to be done. And, oh, what a job for a nervous American in slow-going China!

The next day was Easter Sunday, but on the principle of saving life I managed to have more work than rest, and this too, of a decidedly secular nature. But "tell it not in Gath," at least till after the work is all done.

With two natives to assist me I divided my territory between us and proceeded to experiment. If a first enrolment is hard, a second is harder. Beware of the returned beggar, if you would seek ease in relief-work. And keep shy of issuing grain orders, if you would seek for haste. Imagine going to a village, resisting tea and food, contented with a hurried word as a polite salution, trying to impress on the comprehension of perplexed Chinamen the kind of bills to be prepared for each person, the proper selection of new names for relief, and the writing of English numbers with the stamping of a seal on each particular bill, and all this in eight or ten villages a day, and you can understand in part my peculiar position. Etiquette in such cases is nowhere, and such I am afraid to say are many of the Christian graces.

In the first village I tried, I personally inspected all the cases, but was met with complaints and deception, friction and unsatisfactoriness. By the advice of my wheelbarrow man I afterwards followed another plan by placing the responsibility on the village-elders, leaving to myself the right to decide the limit and character of the further aid. It was good for me, but a torture to the elders. If any blame was to be given by a complaining people, I saved myself by this transference of obligation.

From a week's experience I am convinced that no more money is needed in this region at present. In fact I am inclined to think there is a plethora of relief. Foreign aid, Imperial aid and private aid—this is enough. Some villages are blessed with all three. At first it seemed a wonder if a few thousands of taels could come, and the relief rendered was plainly for *life*. Now the people have got beyond that stage, and all alike seek for a share. Bankers make a 'corner' in silver and merchants in grain; the rich purchase land and the headmen 'squeeze;" and the days of compassion have all disappeared. Discontent, grumbling, recrimination and jealousy are factors at present. "Others are aided, and why not I?" "Money is plenty, and why am I slighted?" Were it not that the official at work with us was so helpful and considerate, I would look on these various funds as a source of trouble rather than a blessing. Missionaries all along the line uttered a cry, and at the last foreigners and natives make an onset and seize the citadel. By the aid thus rendered all these different districts could be thoroughly covered, and this in fact is our case in this district of Lo-an, thanks to a sensible official, as well as a multitude of missionaries.

But, I want no more money in my territory; and I leave it to others to speak for themselves. The systematic efforts of others in the past few months have already shown signs of good, and the country is practically beyond the famishing condition, though still living on weeds and roots, chaff and rubbish, with an iota of wheat for the well-to-do.

The aid will probably be continued till the first part of June, and then adieu. More money, I am afraid, would demoralise the people, if the only method is that of free giving.

I remain,
Yours very truly,
Gilbert Reid.

Lo-an, May 1st.

Sir,—I have delayed for some time writing or sending you anything about the famine work. It is a comfort to know that in most places it is wending to a conclusion. The distributors have done splendid service, and have no wish to continue it, when it is not absolutely required. The reports from Shantung are all satisfactory with the exception of Wuting Fu, where the trouble is chronic, but like the other places it will be given up shortly. The northern parts of Manchuria may need our attention a little longer, but it is encouraging to be able to look forward to the end of the famine work as near at hand.

I beg to enclose a recent letter from Chinan-fu.

Yours truly,
Wm. Muirhead.

May 21st.

Dear Mr. Muirhead,—It falls to me to report to you by this mail the progress of the work of distribution at our station. Mr. Bergen has no doubt given you a full

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account of this location. We are 150 *li* North East of Chinan Fu and twenty *li* South of the district city of Chi Tung having rented a small court in this village. Immediately after determining upon this as our centre of distribution, I returned to Chinan Fu and brought up the last consignment of silver (Tls.4,600.) and what was more important, at least to the writer—my wife.

She is engaged in visiting from day to day in this group of villages making the acquaintance of the women and supplying millet to persons who are ill.

In regard to the work of enrolment we can report rapid progress. This morning we made the third Saturday payment covering 48 villages aggregating 14,000 mouths. We have made one Wednesday payment, and have at present upon our roll 82 villages furnishing a total of 21,000 mouths. There remain, therefore 28 villages to be enrolled in order to embrace the entire one hundred villages in this district whose taxes have been remitted. We expect to have the lists complete by next Saturday. We have enough silver to carry the entire number of villages to the first of June, and at the same time give each of the villages which have been enrolled since the second drawing, an extra seven days' allowance.

As to the condition of the people it is of course very bad, though hardly so bad as that of the villages north of the Yellow River which I helped before. However, I feel that what we do here, while being imperatively demanded, will be followed by more permanent good to the people. The wheat is doing finely all over this district, and if the floods hold off until it is garnered the present stress will be over.

Many pathetic and distressing sights meet us in the course of our labours at enrolling. It is not uncommon to enter a court, and find the entire family in apparently the last stages of exhaustion. As one hurries from house to house he feels as though he were in a waking nightmare, so persistent are the repetitions of scenes of human misery which pass before his eyes. Haggard faces appear on every hand. The general expression upon the faces of the majority of the people is one of utter hopelessness. One is often greeted on the other hand with almost hysterical joy, or silent supplication, which tells plainer than speech of a nervous system entirely unstrung. Especially trying is it to see the pitifully emaciated forms of the little children. It is even as my donkey driver said the other night, "when grown people are hungry they keep quiet, but the children will cry when they want food, and then the parent can't keep his own eyes from filling with tears." Boiled willow leaves seem to be the sole article of diet of a large part of the people. There is, of course, a great deal of sickness amongst the people, but not so much as might be expected, owing, I presume, to the extraordinary coolness of the weather.

Mr. Bergen will return to the city in a few days, but my wife and I can stay until the 23rd of May, when we too must go back. We propose to make an extra payment to last the people until the wheat harvest.

With kindest regards,

I am, yours sincerely,

WM. P. CHALFANT.

Sung Kuo-li-Chia, 4th May.

THE ICE QUESTION, AND THE DOG CASE.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Allow me to call your attention to a matter which may be of very serious importance to any one of this community. A Chinese was received into the wards of this hospital at about 11 a.m. to-day. He had just received severe injuries while at work on board of a steamer. As Dr. Duncan Reid was in the hospital at the time he kindly assisted me in examining the man. Among other injuries he had a very serious dislocation of the knee joint. I reduced this dislocation and after applying splints sent off for ice to apply to the injured joint. My man returned saying that no ice could be purchased. I sent again, and am now informed that all the native ice dealers are in combination to raise the price of ice and they *will not* sell a pound at present. My patient may lose his limb, possibly his life for want of ice when there is a large quantity stored in Shanghai. Any one of the most distinguished foreigners in the community may need ice to-day or to-morrow to save his life. In the name of suffering humanity is there no redress for this selfish refusal to supply ice for a patient in his dire distress?

Allow me to allude to another matter. In this morning's issue of your paper, there is a report of a case in which a Chinese sued a foreigner for an injury received by the bite of a dog. The Chinese, Zen by name, said that both Drs. Boone and Milles had repeatedly demanded to be paid for their medical services rendered to him after he was bitten by the dog. This man never applied to me for treatment for the bite of a dog or for the cure of any other injury. He did come to me on the morning of the 16th of May to ask for some tonic medicine as he said that he was out of sorts. He then stated that he had been bitten by a dog and showed me a scar of what appeared to be a recent injury. I did not treat him for that and have never seen him since. I may add that I do not charge or receive fees for attending Chinese and that I have never charged the above mentioned man anything at all.

Believe me to remain,
Yours most truly,

H. W. BOONE, M.D.,
Superintending Surgeon,
St. Luke's Hospital.

St. Luke's Hospital,
Shanghai, 22nd May, 1889.

SELF-SUPPORTING MISSIONS.

The following interesting letter appears in *The Christian* of the 29th of March last:—

SIR,—It is well known to all supporters of the London Missionary Society that it has for some years had considerable difficulty in raising the funds that are necessary for carrying on its work in various parts of the heathen world. With an almost stationary income, it is very difficult for the Society adequately to extend its operations even in those countries where it already has representatives, and almost impossible for it to commence new missions in other lands which have in recent years been opened to European commerce. We have noticed lately in the home papers various suggestions for retrenchment in the Society's expenditure. In regard to these suggestions we do not now express any opinion except this—that a long experience of life in China leads us to disbelieving altogether in the principle of reducing to the lowest possible point the salaries of missionaries. A missionary, male or female, may of course *exist* in China, and probably in other countries also, on a very small income indeed; but as regards the great majority of Europeans, if they are to live in *health*, to work *efficiently* as missionaries, and to give their children a proper education, something more than the bare necessities of life is requisite. We cannot help thinking, however, that the work of our own Society and other societies might be very largely developed, not by reducing the rate of remuneration paid to salaried agents abroad, but by the addition of a band of *entirely unremunerated* labourers to the ranks of missionaries who are supported by the Churches.

This is the matter we now wish to press on the attention of our fellow Christians in England. We ourselves are prepared, if others will join us, to forego the salary and various money allowances for personal needs granted by the Society to its missionaries, and we appeal to young men possessed of private means to come out and unite themselves with us as honorary workers in the Hankow Mission of the London Society.

This is not the place to enter into details of our work, and of the opportunities that exist for its extension. It is enough to say that the needs of this district cannot well be overstated. Situated in the very heart of a province containing many millions of people, Hankow presents one of the finest centres for missionary enterprise in the whole world. Almost at our very doors we have in the three cities of Hankow, Hanyang, and Wuchang, a town population that cannot be very far short of the population of Liverpool and Glasgow taken together. In the country districts round about there are many other large towns and villages, and we long to see European evangelists stationed in various central positions throughout those districts, from which, with the help of native Christians, each one could work the region surrounding his own headquarters. Judging from the experience of the past, there is no likelihood that this work can ever be overtaken by the existing agencies either of our own or of other societies.

We therefore invite men who have an independent income, or men whose personal friends are able and willing to send them abroad, to come out and supplement, in the way just described, and without any cost to the Society, the work that is being already done by the Society's missionaries in this neighbourhood. Most of the English societies now represented in China—our own as well as others—number some unpaid missionaries amongst their agents. We wish for all the missions, as well as for our own, a large increase of such workers. We think that an unmarried man of frugal habits would be able to live here on £100 per annum. Our desire is that every one coming to Hankow in connection with this scheme should if he wishes it be provided with free quarters. At present, however, we cannot definitely promise this in all cases, but we shall try to make arrangements whereby the expenses of house rent will at all events be reduced to as small a sum as possible. Should this letter meet the eyes of any medical men who are anxious to combine evangelistic work with the practice of medicine, we can promise them rare opportunities for usefulness here; and if the consciousness of having been able to do untold good to the bodies as well as the souls of men be not a sufficient recompense, they will find as the result of a few years' labour here such recompense as few medical men in England attain. A rule of the Society exists which forbids any of its medical men to engage in private practice amongst Europeans. We are thoroughly convinced of the wisdom of this rule, and our District Committee is unanimous in thinking that it should be observed by honorary not less than by paid agents of the Society.

Our idea is that anyone who joins us should live for the first year or two in Hankow, where he could study the language and become familiar with the work of the Mission; after that, he could gradually feel his way to settling down in some of the country districts where we have converts already, who form the nucleus of a country church. We do not wish to appeal for single men only. Married couples would also find a very hearty welcome and plenty of work; but it is essential that both husband and wife should be full of the missionary spirit, strong in health, and prepared, if need be, to put up with some inconveniences. In view of all the contingencies connected with married life amongst Europeans in

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a country like China, we could not recommend married people to come out unless they had something like an assured income of £200 per annum. They would require more if they had children.

We shall either of us be happy to correspond with anyone who wishes for fuller information concerning the work and its conditions; or enquiries can be addressed to Rev. R. Wardlaw Thompson at the *London Missionary Society's office*, 14, Blomfield-street, London, E.C., to whom we are sending more particulars of our scheme. We ourselves shall be, in all matters affecting our work, subject to the vote of the District Committee of the Society; those who join us will be members of the same Committee, and will be expected to act in accordance with its decisions. It is not essential that our honorary workers should have had a college education, or that they should be ordained, but we wish that they should all be really "self-supporting" in the sense of having private sources of income. We should not encourage anyone to join this branch of our mission if supported by a church, or by a local auxiliary of the parent Society.

Finally we appeal to parents possessed of means, asking them, if they have children who desire to become missionaries, to enable them to do so as honorary members of the Society. We are persuaded that few things will help so much to convince the world of the disinterestedness of missionaries as seeing the missionary body largely recruited from amongst men and women of culture and good social position, who are willing to go forth into all the world to preach the Gospel to the heathen, taking nothing for their service, but living on inherited wealth, their hands strengthened and upheld by the prayers, and sympathy, and benedictions of Christian parents.

We are, Sir, &c.,

GRIFFITH JOHN,
ARNOLD FOSTER.

Hankow, China.

Miscellaneous.

THE OPENING OF THE WOOSUNG BAR DREDGING OPERATIONS.

Nothing can shew more forcibly the value of persistent pressure on the Chinese mind than the fact that the "Heaven-sent barrier" is being seriously attacked at last. The Foreign Ministers and the Inspector-General of Customs have at last succeeded in getting attention paid to the constant and renewed remonstrances of the Chamber of Commerce and the Press, and the consent of the Tsung-li Yamên having been gained, the presence in Shanghai of an enlightened Taotai, always ready and willing to meet the reasonable requests of foreigners, has resulted in preparations being made on the most complete scale, which culminated in the formal commencement of operations on Saturday. It marks an epoch in the history of the port, and accordingly H.E. Taotai Kung and the acting Commissioner of Customs, Mr. M. Boyd Bredon, to whom the Taotai has entrusted all the details of the work with unstinted confidence and liberality, determined to make the event a memorable ceremony, and to this end invitations were sent round in their joint names to the leading Chinese and foreign officials of the port, and a few prominent residents, to go down to Woosung in the Taotai's private gunboat, the *Chun Ho*, and the dredging tug-boat *Kai Tung*, the "Opener of Communications," and see the *Anding*, the dredging vessel, make her first attack on the much-abused barrier. The duties of mail-day kept away some of the expected guests, and Mr. P. J. Hughes, British Consul-General and *doyen* of the Consular body, was prevented by illness, but there was a large party present. The guests were invited for 11 a.m., and within half-an-hour of the appointed time the two vessels started for the scene of operations. They day was cloudy and cool, and a few drop of rain fell about noon, but on the whole the weather was all that could be desired: a bright sun might have added to the gaiety of the scene, but at the expense of some discomfort.

The majority of the invited went down in the Taotai's twin-screw gunboat, a very pretty and charmingly fitted-up ship, kept in apple-pie order. Mr. Kung Chao-yüan, the ever-courteous Taotai, and Mr. Bredon welcomed their guests on board and did all possible for their comfort; among them were the Director of the Arsenal, Mr. Nieh; the Chief Deputy Wu, specially detailed by the Viceroy to have charge of the dredging; the Manager of the Tax Stations, Mr. Wu; the Manager of the Cotton Mill Company. Mr. Kung; the Haifang, Mr. Liu; the English Mixed Court Magistrate, Mr. Tsai, and his French colleague, Mr. Kuo; and a large number of subordinate officials, including the Taotai's Secretary, Mr. Zee Lanchar. Among the foreigners present were General Kennedy, U.S Consul-General, acting as *doyen* of the Consuls in the absence of Mr. Hughes; Mr. Wagner, French Consul-General; Dr. Focke, German Consul-General; Mr. Goebel, Belgian Consul-General; Mr. Marconel, Spanish Consul; Mr. Valdez, Portuguese Consul; Mr. Bichler, Austro-Hungarian Consul; Capt. Nesham, R.N., of the *Satellite*; Capt. Denison, R.N., of the *Firebrand*; Capt. Malapert, F.N., of the *Aspic*; Mr. Bredon, Acting Commissioner of Customs; Mr. Emens, U.S. Vice-Consul-General; M. Guillien, of the French Consulate; Mr. Krause of the German Consulate; Colonel Clarke; Mr. John Macgregor, Chairman of the Municipal Council and representing also the Chamber of Commerce and Danish Consul; Mr. W. V. Drummond, Mr. G. Galles, Mr. R. Markwick, Mr. R. W. Little, etc., etc. On board the *Kai Tung*, which followed the *Chun Ho*, were Mr. W. R. Carles and Mr. G. Brown, H.M. Vice-Consuls; Messrs. Mackean, Hillier, and Unwin, of the Customs; Mr. C. V. Brenan, Harbour-Master, and Messrs. Bois, Twentyman, Corner, Blondin, P. V. Graut and Prentice.

Soon after the Cotton Mills were passed the company on the *Chun Ho* proceeded to the discussion of a sumptuous *déjeuner*, laid on the forward deck of the steamer, supplied by the Han Teen Chang Hotel, and capitally cooked and served, the accompanying flow of champagne being inexhaustible. The Taotai and Mr. Bredon occupied the chair and vice-chair respectively. A similar feast was served simultaneously on the *Kai Tung*. Tiffin was just over as the gunboat came to an anchor on the Bar, where the *Anding*, Captain Fyfe, was at anchor with a hopper barge on each side of her, and the feast was brought to a sudden close, and all thought of speeches dissipated by an incident which threatened to convert the ceremony into a tragedy. The dredging flotilla was purposely anchored on one side of the channel by Mr. Brenan, so that the traffic over the Bar might not be interfered with. Suddenly the sound of the gunboat's chain being paid out arrested the attention of the guests. The Japanese steamer *Akashi* coming in coal-laden at full speed, was seen heading straight for the flotilla, and some distance from the proper channel over the Bar. She apparently touched the ground and was out of the control of her helm. She let go an anchor, but the chain snapped, and she came on straight for the *Chun Ho*, and grazed along her side as she passed, carrying away a piece of canvas from one of the quarter boats. It was the narrowest possible escape.

This danger being past, all hands assembled on the *Anding* and the barges, the starting levers on the dredger having been decorated with red cloth. All being ready the Taotai moved the levers, the endless chain of buckets began to revolve, and as the first bucketful of mud came up the Taotai threw into it a bottle of champagne and the dredging of the Bar had commmenced. Before this Mr. Zee Lanchar made the following speech to the company in English:—

GENTLEMEN—With your permission, and under the instructions of H.E. the Taotai, I beg now to say a few words about the dredging of the Woosung Bar. It has been talked of for many years past, and much correspondence has been exchanged between the Foreign Ministers and the Tsung-li Yamên on the subject. It having been sanctioned by the Government at Peking, instructions were first sent down to H.E.'s predecessor, Mr. Fêng, more than ten years ago. The steam dredger *Anding* was immediately ordered from Europe, at a cost of more than a lac of Shanghai sycee. On her arrival the dredging was commenced, but no European engineer was employed, the work was left to Chinese entirely, and after two years of working and an enormous outlay of money, no practical result was obtained.

Now an entirely fresh system has been adopted. The supervision of the work has been entrusted to the acting Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Bredon, and the harbour-master, Mr. Brenan, who have engaged from Japan a practical engineer. Mr. Fyfe, who has had much experience in similar work in that country. He has full charge of the whole operation, and all the Chinese employed, down to the coolies, are under his orders; and knowing his competence, we have little doubt that he will be rapidly successful, and that in a little while the large mail steamers will be able to pass in and out freely, either at spring or neap tides; and this is our earnest desire.

In the name of Mr. Kung, Taotai, I have the honour to thank all the European and Chinese officials and others present here to witness the ceremony of the commencement of the dredging of the Woosung Bar, which takes place on board the *Anding* on the 18th day of May, 1889, corresponding in our Chinese calendar to the 19th day of the 4th moon of the 15th year of the reign of the Emperor Kuang Hsü.

I have also to thank Mr. Bredon and Mr. Brenan for their valuable assistance in completing the preparations for the dredging, and for their trouble in preparing the entertainments on board the *Chun Ho* and *Kai Tung*, no slight task with so large a gathering.

Mr. Zee Lanchar's speech was received with great applause.

Some little time was spent in examining the dredging appliances, and all hands then returned, with one or two exceptions, to the *Chun Ho*, which started back for home, followed, as before, by the *Kai Tung*. Soon after starting the company moved to the forward deck, the one-hundredth case of Piper-Heidsieck was opened, and when the glasses were all charged, General Kennedy rose and said—in a long and eloquent speech which the exigencies of our space oblige us to compress:—

GENTLEMEN,—In the regretted absence of Mr. P. J. Hughes, the pleasant duty has devolved upon me of representing the Consular Body and the other foreigners present on this auspicious occasion. If I had known that my worthy colleague was not coming, I should have prepared a more elaborate and forcible speech than I can make you now. I have been thrust up unexpectedly to express, as Consul and as resident of Shanghai, the spontaneous and appropriate emotions which this occasion excites. There is none of us who does not feel a deep and heartfelt desire to see Shanghai prosper, and who is not animated by the kindest and most cordial feelings towards the Chinese. Round this festive board we are assembled on the invitation of the Taotai and Mr. Bredon to witness

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the commencement of a work that has been expected for many years. It is a conspicuous occasion, and we welcome it with profound congratulation and joy for the eventual good which it cannot fail to do to Shanghai. It was, I believe, in 1880 that the residents of Shanghai offered to tax themselves for the purpose of having the Bar dredged. This generous offer finally roused the Foreign Ministers and the Tsung-li Yamên, and the *Anding* was bought. Many years elapsed and many meetings were held; until finally the work is being undertaken by our genial host, Kung Taotai, to whom it will be an honour and a lasting memorial that his name will be ever associated with this great work. I am pleased to be able to testify to his uniform readiness to meet foreigners in all possible ways; and we may take this occasion as a beginning of mutual co-operation in good work for the benefit of this great entrepôt of North China, this grand emporium, Shanghai. With these good relations and this mutual comity we shall work on hand-in-hand and without friction. Peace will be cemented, our relations grow stronger, and progress will be promoted, and the resources and power of China herself increased, to the happiness of this great empire and the mutual advantage of its people and foreigners. I am pleased to be the representative of you all in congratulating the Taotai, and thanking him for the good cheer which we have so heartily enjoyed; and I express the sentiments of us all, Mr. Kung, when I hope that when you leave your present office, it will be to fill a higher post, and fulfil its duties as well. As to Mr. Bredon, to whom as well as to the Taotai, I ask you, gentlemen, to drink, he speaks for himself. His geniality, ability, pleasantness and earnestness have long since won our hearts. We wish him all happiness and speedy promotion, and return our hearty thanks to him and to our other host, Mr. Kung.

The toast was drunk enthusiastically, the Taotai bowing his thanks, and Mr. Bredon rising to respond. Mr. Bredon said that he was entirely unprepared to be thus honoured, and that he should much prefer to simply thank the company for the honour which they had paid, through him, to all in the Customs. He could not forget that any result that might be gained was really due to Messrs. Hobson and Bisbee; it was they who drew up the estimates based on the opinions of all the leading experts. The Bar, being at the junction of two rivers, was a very peculiar one, and the operations on it were to a great extent experimental. He could not sit down without mentioning the loyal and able assistance he had received from Captain Brenan and Mr. Hillier, whose work had been most voluminous; and it would be unfair not to record again the Taotai's co-operation. Mr. Kung was one of the rising men of China, and it was difficult often to get members of this conservative race to appreciate Western ideas; but the Taotai had assisted warmly, and had found the sinews of war liberally, instructing him, Mr. Bredon, to spare no expense necessary to achieve success. If the work did succeed, there would be a channel 400 feet wide and 26 feet deep. He thanked General Kennedy again for his flattering remarks.

The health of Messrs. Brenan and Hillier was then proposed by General Kennedy and done full honour to; Mr. Brenan had preventively taken his passage up in the *Kai Tung*, but Mr. Hillier responded, saying how very much obliged they were by the honour, how small his personal share in the work had been, all he had done being to make himself as useful as possible in translating the numerous documents involved.

Mr. MACGREGOR, with the permission of the Chair, then rose and said:—Gentlemen—I cannot add anything to General Kennedy's remarks, but there is one name that we should not let pass unmentioned. China has shewn before now that she is not afraid to speak to her enemies at her gates, and she is now preparing to admit her friends freely at her gates. Very much of this is due to the energy and ability of Sir Robert Hart, the presiding genius of the Customs service. As a committeeman of the Chamber of Commerce, I can say that we have always received his sympathy; on behalf of the Municipality, though his interests have not come particularly in contact with it, I can say the same; but I know that as a man and as Inspector-General he will be pleased to know that this work is begun. I couple with the toast to Sir Robert Hart the name of Mr. Commissioner Mackean.

The toast was received with cheers, and Mr. Mackean in acknowledging it said:—

Gentlemen—He would be a bold man who would undertake to speak the mind of the Inspector-General on any subject; but I am sure that he will be filled with profound sensations of gratitude to his masters. And Sir Robert may congratulate himself on this; the Chinese Government on one side is pleased, the Diplomatic Body is pleased; and his chief master, Commerce, is pleased. I cannot say more but that I am full of gratitude and thank you heartily in Sir Robert's name.

The *Chun Ho* was now rapidly nearing Shanghai, and the impromptu assembly broke up, its members preparing to land, wishing each other good-bye, and once more thanking the Taotai and Mr. Bredon for the pleasant afternoon spent, and the opportunity they had had to be present at the inauguration of a work so important to the future of Shanghai. The P. & O. buoy was reached soon after five, and the landing of the passengers was rapidly effected in a swarm of steam-launches. That there are grave difficulties, and as the *Akashi* incident shewed, dangers in Captain Fyfe's way, is obvious, but there is full confidence that he will overcome them, and that in a very little while a sensible impression will be made on the Bar, which it is possible that the tides themselves will assist, when a narrow channel has been cut, as it is intended to do in the first instance.

CHINESE CHARACTERISTICS.

MUTUAL RESPONSIBILITY AND RESPECT FOR LAW.

One of the most distinctive features of Chinese society is that which is epitomised in the word "responsibility," a word which carries with it a significance, and embraces a wealth of meaning to which Western lands are total strangers. In those lands, as we well know, the individual is the unit, and the nation is a large collection of individuals. In China the unit of social life is found in the family, the village or the clan, and these are often convertible terms. Thousands of Chinese villages comprise exclusively persons having the same surname, and the same ancestors. The inhabitants have lived in the same spot ever since they began to live at all, and trace an unbroken descent for many hundred years back to the last great political upheaval, such as the overthrow of the Ming dynasty, or its establishment under Hung Wu. In such a village there can be no relationship literally more distant than "cousin," and every male member of an older generation is either a father, an uncle, or some kind of a 'grandfather.' Sometimes eleven generations are represented in the same small hamlet. This does not imply, as might be supposed, extreme old age on the part of any representative of the older generations. The Chinese marry young, marry repeatedly, often late in life, and constantly adopt children. The result is such a tangle among relatives, that without special enquiry and minute attention to the particular characters which are employed in writing the names of all who belong to the same "generation," it is impossible to determine who constitute "the rising generation," and who form the generation which rose long ago. An old man nearly seventy years of age affirms that a young man of thirty is his "grandfather." All the numerous "cousins" of the same generation are termed "brothers," and if the perplexed foreigner insists upon accuracy, and inquires whether they are "own brothers," he will not infrequently be enlightened with the reply that they are "own *brother-cousins*." The writer once proposed a question of this sort, and after some little hesitation the person addressed replied, "Why, yes, *you might call them own brothers*."

These items are but particulars, under the general head of the 'social solidarity' of the Chinese, to which a very inadequate chapter has been already devoted. It is this solidarity, which forms the substratum upon which rests Chinese responsibility. The father is responsible for his son, not merely until the latter attains to "years of discretion," but as long as life lasts, and the son is responsible for his father's debts. The elder brother has a definite responsibility for the younger brother, and the "head of the family"—usually the oldest representative of the oldest generation—has his responsibility for the whole family or clan. What these responsibilities actually are, will depend, however, upon circumstances.

Customs vary widely, and the "personal equation" is a most important factor, of which mere theory takes no account. Thus in a large and influential family, embracing many literary men, some of whom are local magnates, and perhaps graduates, the "head of the clan" may be an addle-headed old man, who can neither read nor write, and who has never in his life been ten miles from home.

The influence of an elder brother over a younger, or indeed of any older member over a younger member of the same family, is of the most direct and positive sort, and is entirely irreconcilable with what we mean by personal liberty. The younger brother is employed as a servant, and wishes to give up his place, but his elder brother will not let him do so. The younger brother wishes to buy a winter garment, but his elder brother thinks the expense is too great, and will not allow him to incur the expense. Even while these remarks are committed to paper, a case is reported in which a Chinese has a number of rare old coins, which a foreigner desires to purchase. Lest the owner should refuse to sell—as is the Chinese way, when one happens to have what another wants—the middleman who made the discovery proposes to the foreigner that he should send to *the uncle* of the owner of the coins a present of foreign candy and other trifles, by which oblique means such pressure will be brought to bear upon the owner of the coins that he will be obliged to give them up! There is a burlesque tale of an origin to us unknown, which relates that a traveller in a western land once came upon a very old man with a long white beard, who was crying bitterly. Struck with the singularity of this spectacle, the stranger halted and asked the old man what he was crying about, and was surprised to be told that it was because his father had just whipped him! "Where is your father?" "Over there," was the reply. Riding in the direction named, the traveller found a much older man, with a beard much longer and whiter than the other. "Is that your son?," asked the traveller. "Yes, it is." "Did you whip him?" "Yes I did." "Why?" "Because he was saucy to his grandfather, and if he does it again I will whip him some more!" Translated into the conditions of Chinese life, the burlesque disappears.

Next in order to the responsibility of members of a family for each other, comes

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the mutual responsibility of neighbours for neighbours. Whether these "neighbours" are or are not related, makes no difference in their responsibility, which depends solely upon proximity. This responsibility is based upon the theory, that virtue and vice are contagious. Good neighbours will make good neighbours, and bad neighbours will make others like them. The mother of Mencius removed three times, in order to reach a desirable neighbourhood. To an occidental fresh from the republican ideas which dominate the Anglo-Saxons, it seems a matter of little or no consequence who his neighbours are, and if he be a resident of a city he may occupy a dwelling for a year, in ignorance even of the name of the family next door. But in China it is otherwise. If a crime takes place, the neighbours are held guilty of something analogous to what English law calls 'misprision of treason,' in that when they knew of a criminal intention, they did not report it. It is vain to reply "I did not know." You are a 'neighbour,' and therefore you must have known. The proceedings which are taken when the crime of killing a parent has been committed, furnish a striking illustration of the Chinese theory of responsibility. In such instances—probably not very frequent—the criminal is often alleged to be insane, as indeed, one must be who voluntarily subjects himself to 'death by the slicing process,' when he might escape it by suicide. In a memorial published in the *Peking Gazette* a few years since the Governor of one of the Central provinces reported in regard to a case of parricide that he had had the houses of all the neighbours pulled down, on the ground of their gross dereliction of duty in not exerting a good moral and reformatory influence over the criminal! Such a proceeding would probably strike an average Chinese as eminently reasonable. In some instances, when this crime has occurred in a district, in addition to all the punishments of persons, the city wall itself is pulled down in parts, or modified in shape, a round corner substituted for a square one, or a gate removed to a new situation, or even closed up altogether. If the crime should be repeated several times in the same district, it is said that the whole city would be razed to the ground, and a new one founded elsewhere, but of this we have met with no certain examples.

Next above the neighbours, comes the village constable or bailiff *(ti pao)*, whose functions are of a most miscellaneous nature, sometimes confined to a single village, and sometimes extending to many. In either case he is the medium of communication between the local magistrate and the people, and is always liable to get into trouble from any one of innumerable causes, and may be beaten to a jelly by a captious official, for not reporting what he could not possibly have known.

At a vast elevation above the village constables, stand the district magistrates, who, so far as the people are concerned, are by far the most important officers in China. As regards the people below them, they are tigers. As regards the officials above them, they are mice. A single local magistrate combines functions which ought to be distributed among at least six different officers. Many of them have no interest whatever in the business which they dispatch, except to extract from it all which it can be made to yield, and from the nature of their miscellaneous and incongruous duties, they are largely dependent upon their secretaries and other subordinates. Having so much to do, even with the best intentions, these officials cannot fail to make numerous mistakes, and many things must go wrong, for which they will be held responsible. The district magistrate is called the *chih hsien*, or the one who "knows the district," and like all Chinese officials he is supposed to have an exhaustive acquaintance with everything within his jurisdiction which is an object of knowledge, and an unlimited capacity to prevent what ought to be prevented. To facilitate this knowledge, and that of the local constables each city and village is divided into compound-atoms, composed of ten families each. At every door hangs a placard or tablet upon which is inscribed the name of the head of the family, and the number of individuals which it comprises. This system of registration, analogous to the old Saxon tithing and hundreds, makes it easy to fix local responsibility. The moment a suspicious stranger appears in the district comprised in a tithing, he is promptly reported to the head of the tithing by whoever sees him first. By the head of the tithing he is immediately reported to the local constable, and by the local constable to the district magistrate, who at once takes steps "rigorously to seize and severely to punish." By the same simple process all local crimes, not due to "suspicious looking strangers" but to permanent residents, are instantly detected before they have hatched into overt acts, and thus the pure morals of the people are preserved from age to age. It is evident that such regulations as these can be efficient only in a state of society where fixity of residence is the rule. It is also evident that even in China, where the most extreme form of permanence of abode is found, the system of tithing is to a large extent a mere legal fiction. Sometimes a city, where no one remembers to have seen them before, suddenly blossoms out with ten-family tablets on every door-post, which indicate the arrival of a district magistrate who intends to enforce the regulations. In some places these tablets are observable in the winter season only, for this is the time when bad characters are most numerous, and most dangerous. But so far as our knowledge extends, the system as such is little more than a theoretical reminiscence, and even when observed, it is probably merely a form. Practically, it is not generally observed, and in some provinces at least, one may travel for a thousand miles, and for months together, and not find ten-family tablets posted in more than one per cent. of the cities and villages along the route. It may be mentioned in passing, that the Chinese tithing system is intimately connected with the so-called census. If each doorway exhibits an accurate list, constantly corrected, of the number of persons in each family; if each local constable has accurate copies of the lists of all the tithings within his territory; if each district magistrate has at his disposal accurate summaries of all these items, it is as easy to secure a complete and accurate census of the empire, as to do a long sum in addition, for the whole is equal to the aggregate of all its parts. But these are large *ifs*, and as a matter of fact, none of the conditions are realised. The tablets are non-existent, and when the local magistrate is occasionally called upon for the totals which should represent them, neither he nor the numerous constables upon whom he is entirely dependent, has the least interest in securing accuracy, which indeed from the nature of the case is difficult. *There is no squeeze to be got from a census*, and for this reason alone, a real Chinese census is a mere figment of the imagination. Even in the most enlightened western lands, the notion that a census means taxation appears to be ineradicable, but in China the suspicion which it excites is so strong, that for this reason alone, unless the tithing system were carried out with uniform faithfulness in all places and at all times, an accurate enumeration would be impossible.

For a local Magistrate to be guilty of all kinds of misdemeanours, for which he gets into no trouble whatever, or getting into it escapes scot free by means of influential friends, or by a judicious expenditure of silver, and yet after all to lose his post on account of something which had happened within his jurisdiction which he could not have prevented, isa constant occurrence.

How the system of responsibility operates in the domain of all the successive grades of officials, it is unnecessary to illustrate in detail. Multiplied examples may be found in almost every copy of the translations from the *Peking Gazette*. A case was mentioned a few months ago, where a soldier on guard had stolen some thirty boxes of bullets placed in his care, and sold them to a tinner, who supposed them to be condemned and surplus stores. The soldier was beaten one hundred blows, and banished to the frontiers of the empire in penal servitude. A petty officer whose duty it was to inspect the stores, was condemned to eighty blows, and dismissed from the service, though allowed to commute his punishment for a money payment. The purchasers of the material were considered innocent of any blame, but were beaten forty blows of the light bamboo, on general principles. The lieutenant in charge was cashiered, in order to be put upon trial for his "connivance," in the theft, but he judiciously disappeared. The Board to which the memorial was addressed was requested to determine the penalty to be inflicted upon the General in command, for his share in the matter. Thus each individual is a link in a chain, which is followed up to the very end, and no link can escape by pleading ignorance or inability to prevent the crime. Still more characteristic examples of Chinese responsibility are furnished by the memorials annually appearing in the *Peking Gazette*, reporting the outbreak of some irrepressible river. In the case of a flood in the Yung-ting Ho in the province of Chihli during the summer of 1888, the waters came down from the mountains with the velocity of a mill-race. The officials seem to have been promptly on hand, and to have risked their lives in struggling to do what was utterly beyond the powers of man. They were helpless as ants under a rain spout during a summer torrent. But this did not prevent Li Hung-chang from requesting that they should be immediately stripped of their buttons, or deprived of their rank without being removed from their posts (a favourite mode of expressing imperial dissatisfaction), and the Governor-General consistently concludes his memorial with the usual request that his own name should be sent to the Board of Punishments for the determination of a penalty to be inflicted upon him for his complicity in the affair. In like manner the recent failure of the embankments built to bring back the Yellow River into its old channel, was the signal for the degradation and banishment of a great number of officers, from the Governor of the province of Honan downward. The theory of responsibility is carried upwards with unflinching consistency to the son of Heaven himself. It is no unusual thing for the Emperor in published edicts to confess to Heaven his shortcomings, taking upon himself the blame of floods, famines, and revolutionary outbreaks, for which he begs Heaven's forgiveness. His responsibility to Heaven is as real, as that of his officers to himself. If the Emperor loses his throne, it is because he has already lost "Heaven's decree," which is presumptively transferred to whoever can hold the Empire.

That aspect of the Chinese doctrine of responsibility which is the most repellent to western standards of thought, is found in the oriental practice of extinguishing an entire family, for the crime of one of its members. Many instances of this sort were reported in connection with the T'aip'ing rebellion, and more recently the family of the chieftain Yakub Beg, who led the Mohammedan rebellion in Turkestan, furnished another. These atrocities are not, however, limited to cases of overt rebellion. In the year 1873 "a Chinese was accused and convicted of having broken open the grave of a relative of the imperial family, in order to rob the coffin of certain gold, silver and

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jade ornaments, which had been buried in it. The entire family of the criminal, consisting of four generations, from a man more than ninety years of age to a female infant only a few months old was exterminated. Thus eleven persons suffered death for the offence of one. And there was no evidence to show that any of them were parties to, or were even aware of his crime."

The Chinese theory and practice of responsibility has been often cited as one of the causes of the perpetuity of Chinese institutions. While we are impressed with flagrant violations of justice, which it involves, it is impossible to be blind to its excellencies. In western lands where every one is supposed to be innocent until he is proved to be guilty, it is exceedingly difficult to fix responsibility upon any particular person. A bridge breaks down with a heavy train of cars loaded with passengers, and an investigation fails to find any one in fault. A lofty building falls, and crushes scores of people, and while the architect is criticised, he shows that he did the best he could with the means at his disposal, and no one ever hears of his being punished. If an ironclad capsize, or a military campaign is ruined because the proper preparations were not made, or not made in time, eloquent speeches set forth the defects of the system which renders such events possible, but no one is punished. The Chinese are far behind us in their conceptions of public justice, but might we not wisely learn again from them the ancient lesson that every one should be held rigidly responsible for his own acts, in order to the security of the body politic?

The relation of the Chinese theory of responsibility to foreigners in China is a topic with which we are all familiar. The "boy" into whose hands everything is committed, and who must produce every spoon, fork or curio; the steward who takes general charge of your affairs, suffering no one but himself to cheat you, the compradore who wields vast powers but who is individually responsible for every piece of property and for every one of hundreds of coolies—these types of character we still have with us, and shall always have, as long as we have anything to do with the Chinese. Innkeepers in China are not noted for flagrant virtues of any kind, especially for consideration toward foreign travellers. Yet we have known of a Chinese innkeeper who ran half a mile after a foreigner, bringing an empty sardine-tin which he supposed to be a forgotten valuable. He knew that he was responsible, unlike American hotel-keepers who coolly notify their guests that "the proprietor is not responsible for boots left in the hall to be blacked."

Responsibility for the character, behaviour and debts of those when they recommend or introduce is a social obligation of recognised force, and one which it behoves foreigners dealing with Chinese to emphasise. If the Chinese perceive that a foreigner is ignorant of the responsibilities of his employees, or disregards it, it will not take them long to act upon this discovery in extremely disagreeable ways.

One of the many admirable qualities of the Chinese, is their innate respect for law. Whether this element in their character is the effect of their institutions, or the cause of them, we do not know. But what we do know is, that the Chinese are by nature and by education a law-abiding people. Reference has been already made to this trait in speaking of the national virtue of patience, but it deserves special notice in connection with Chinese theories of mutual responsibility. In China every man, woman and child is directly responsible to some one else, and of this important fact no one for a moment loses sight. Though one should 'go far and fly high' he cannot escape, and this he well knows. Even if he should himself escape his family cannot escape. The certainty of this does not indeed make a bad man good, but it frequently prevents him from becoming ten-fold worse.

Contrast the Chinese inherent respect for law with the spirit often manifested where republican institutions flourish most, and manifested it must be said by those whose antecedents would least lead us to expect it—college laws, municipal ordinances, state and national enactments, are quietly defied, as if the assertion of personal liberty were one of the greatest needs, instead of one of the principal dangers of the time. It is rightly regarded as one of the most serious indictments against the Chinese transaction of public business of all kinds, that everyone not only connives at acts of dishonesty which it is his duty to prevent and to expose, but that such is the constitution of public and private society that everyone must connive at such acts. But is it less disgraceful that in Christian countries men of education and refinement, as well as the uncultivated, quietly ignore, or deliberately disregard the laws of the land, as if by common consent, and as if it were now a well ascertained fact, that a law is more honoured in the breach than in the observance? How shall we explain or defend the existence upon our statute books of multitudinous laws which are neither repealed nor enforced, laws which by their anomalous non-existent existence, tend to bring all legislation into a common contempt? By what means shall we explain the alarming increase of crime in many western lands, during the last thirty years? How shall we explain that conspicuous indifference to the sacredness of human life, which is unquestionably a characteristic of some western lands? It is vain to dogmatise in regard to matters which from the nature of the case are beyond the reach of statistics. Still we must confess to a decided conviction that human life is safer in a Chinese city than in an American city—safer in Peking, than in New York. We believe it to be safer for a foreigner to traverse the interior of China, than for a Chinese to traverse the interior of the United States. It must be remembered that the Chinese as a whole are quite as ignorant as any body of immigrants in the United States, and not less prejudiced. They are, as we constantly see, ideal material for mobs. The wonder is, not that such outbreaks take place, but that they have not occurred more frequently and have not been more fatal to the lives of foreigners. It is a Chinese tenet that Heaven is influenced by the acts and by the spirit of human beings. Upon this principle depends the efficacy of the self-mutilation on behalf of parents, to which reference was made in speaking of filial piety. That this is a correct theory we are not prepared to maintain, yet certain facts deserve mention which might seem to support it. The geographical situation and extent of the eighteen provinces of China bear a marked resemblance to that part of the United States of America east of the Rocky Mountains. The erratic eccentricities of the climate of the United States, are, as little Marjorie Fleming remarked of the multiplication table, "more than human nature can bear." It was Hawthorne who observed of New England, that it has "no climate, but only samples." Contrast the weather in Boston, New York or Chicago, with that of places in the same latitude in China. It is not that China is not, as the geographies used to affirm of the United States, "subject to extremes of heat and cold," for in the latitude of Peking the thermometer ranges through about one hundred degrees Fahrenheit, which ought to afford sufficient variety of temperature to any mortal. But in China these alternations of heat and cold do not follow one another with that reckless and incalculable lawlessness witnessed in the great republic, but with an even and unruffled sequence suited to an ancient and a patriarchal system. The Imperial almanac is the authorised exponent of the threefold harmony subsisting in China between heaven, earth and man. Whether the Imperial almanac is equally trustworthy in all parts of the Emperor's broad domain, we do not know, but in those regions with which we happen to be familiar, the almanac is itself a signal-service. At the point marked for the establishment of spring, spring appears. In several different years we have remarked that the day on which the 'establishment of autumn' fell was distingnished by a marked change in the weather after which the blistering heats of 'summer,' returned no more. Instead of allowing the frost to make irregular and devastating irruptions in every month of the year—as is too often the case in lands where 'democracy' rules—the Chinese calendar fixes one of its four-and-twenty 'terms' as 'frost-fall.' A few years ago, this 'term' fell on the 23rd of October. Up to that day no lightest frost had fallen. On the morning of that day the ground was covered with white frost, and continued to be so covered every morning thereafter. We have noted these correspondences for some years, and have seldom observed a variation of more than the usual three days of grace, with the exception of the year 1888 in the northern part of Honan, where frost fell eleven days in advance of schedule time. But further inquiry showed that this was a purely local irregularity, undoubtedly due to the depraving influence of the great breach in the Yellow River only a few miles distant. With the resumption of imperial control over this errant stream, these breaches of climatic uniformity may be expected to disappear. It is not inanimate nature only which in China is amenable to reason and to law, but animated nature as well. For some years we have noticed that on a particular day in early spring the window frames were adorned with several flies, where for many months no flies had been seen, and on each occasion we have turned to the imperial almanac with a confidence justified by the event, and ascertained that this particular day was the one assigned for the "stirring of insects"! It has been remarked that there is in the blood of the English-speaking race a certain lawlessness, which makes us intolerant of rules and restless under restraints. "Our sturdy English ancestors," says Blackstone, "held it beneath the condition of a freeman to appear, or to do any other act, at the precise time appointed." But for this trait of our doughty forefathers, the doctrine of personal liberty, and the rights of man, might have waited long for assertion.

But now that these rights have got themselves tolerably well established, might we not judiciously lay somewhat more emphasis upon the importance of subordinating the individual will to the public good and upon the majesty of Law? And in these directions have we not something to learn from the Chinese?

TO THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA.

WITH THE CAMELS INTO MONGOLIA. THE COUNTRY OF GOG AND MAGOG. THE TOMBS OF THE GREAT MINGS.

The first time I met a camel-train near Peking I reined up my pony and feasted my eyes upon it. And although I have seen thousands since then, I find them just as amusing as ever. The two-humped or Bactrian camels of Northern China are much bigger than those we know at home, and I have seen few sights so picturesque as a string of them approaching over these brown plains. A dozen are fastened together by a cord attaching the nose of one to the tail of the other; a bell, a couple of feet long, is hung round the neck of the last to warn the driver in front by its ceasing if the line breaks anywhere; a medley of bales and boxes and clothing is slung on their backs; ruddy-faced Mongols dressed

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in scarlet and yellow, with ornaments of gold and silver in profusion, sit up aloft and smile at you as you pass; the great shaggy beasts step softly along, ingeniously out of step, lifting their sponge-like feet and dropping them again with perfect and unvarying deliberation, the whole train moving with the silence of a dream, broken only by the *jang-jang* of the solitary bell. Their big brown eyes look you straight in the face and there is something pathetic and reproachful in their glance. "You are laughing at me," they seem to say, "and I know I am an extraordinary looking creature. But then, if you only knew it, so are you, and it would be kinder to think of my services than to laugh at my shape." All day long, one street of Peking is filled with these picturesque processions, gaunt, wretched, creatures, with worn-out coats and covered with coaldust, carrying sacks of coal from the Western Hills into Peking; and the far finer and better kept animals bearing tea away up into the North. During all my stay in Peking I longed for the moment when I too should ride away at dawn toward Mongolia, in the worn tracks of these strange beasts and their merry masters.

My pony was a little creature not much bigger than a dog and with a white coat as long and thick as a Polar bear's. The *mafoo* had bought him a few days before from a Mongol for twenty taels and he had never had a foreign saddle and bridle on till I mounted him. Therefore the all-day ride was not so monotonous as usual, and for the first five miles it was even exciting. We started at daybreak and the sun was well above us before we got outside the two gates of Peking. Then the *mafoo* took the lead. Once in the open country we were on a great alluvial plain, dotted with mud houses, broken up by irregular patches of verdure and cultivation, laced in all directions by dozens of bridle-paths, and ending on our left in the dim outlines of the Western Hills, the summer sanatarium of Peking. We plunged into the labyrinth of roads and the *mafoo* threaded his way among them without a moment's hesitation. Afterwards I found that he had been over them forty-six times before, but for my own part I could see hardly any signs by which to distinguish one from another. Till eleven o'clock we trotted steadily on, reaching then a small town called Sha-'ho, where we stopped an hour for rest and tiffin. Here already foreigners are scarce and I was the centre of much curiosity, keen and inquisitive, but quite good-natured. Crossing a river over two very old broad flat bridges of white marble, built curiously at an obtuse angle to each other, we emerged again into the plain. This grew more uneven as we advanced, till at last we are riding along a narrow path on the sloping stony bank of a dry watercourse. The stones grew bigger and more numerous, till they could no longer be safely negotiated, and then my guide struck up to the right, and an hour's détour across country, with half a mile of such bad going at the end that I got off and led my pony, brought us at three o'clock to the fortified city of Nan-k'ou, thirty miles from Peking, our resting-place for the night.

Nan-k'ou is a very interesting little place. Its wall is in ruins, but that only makes it the more picturesque; on the hills right and left of the entrance to the pass which the city is supposed to guard, are two sprightly little towers; a dozen others are just visible dotted about the chain of hills around it; its one broad street, paved once with great blocks of stone, now worn away and upset till a pony can hardly make his way at all over their slippery rolling surface, is crowded with traffic of men and beasts and every fifty yards a wide arched door-way leads into a spacious inn-yard. This street is part of the great commercial highway between China and all her neighbours of the North. Through it a constant stream of camels and ponies and donkeys and even laden coolies passes, bringing Mongol produce to Peking, and taking brick-tea back from Tientsin to Kiakta on the Russian frontier. And through this street this stream has passed for who knows how many years—thousands, at any rate.

I strolled along it and turned into one of the gateways. But I had only just time to step aside when a drove of at least a hundred ponies suddenly stampeded through it and galloped headlong through the street, whinnying and kicking up their heels in delight at being free. Just outside the city they drank greedily at a little stream and then rolled over and over each other in the dirt. But such a spectacle of cruelty to animals as was afforded by the state of their backs I have never seen. Not one of them was without a large raw wound on each side, and half of them had horrible deep bleeding festering sores bigger than two hands. The sight was sickening, and nothing whatever was done for them except that afterwards I saw a coolie beating the inside of the rough pack-saddles with a stick to keep the blood-soaked places from getting quite hard. Each pony was carrying two bales of tea, as hard as blocks of granite. I tried the weight of one and found I could just raise it off the ground. Therefore the ponies were shockingly overloaded.

The camels require so much space for themselves and their burdens that they have special caravanserais. Their saddles, with the loads deposited on each side, are arranged in regular rows, like game after a battue, and the animals betake themselves to a trough which runs all round the yard, squeezing close together. The yard of a caravanserai at feeding-time therefore exhibits a complete circular horizon of camels' tails. When they have eaten they sink down and very deliberately chew the cud. It is just as well to keep on good terms with a camel, for when he is standing up he can swing his hind leg like a pendulum in an arc of about twenty feet and therefore deliver a kick which would break in the door of a San Francisco gambling-den; while when he is lying down he can spare a couple of gallons of cud to spit at an enemy. I saw a Mongol driver to whom this had happened, and the sight was unpleasant and instructive. Several hundred camels shared the hospitality of Nan-k'ou with me that night.

Next morning we embarked upon little white donkeys, the pass being impracticable for ponies. This road in its glory is said to have been paved with great smooth granite blocks; now in the valley it is a broken mass of rough stones in a river bed, through which a shallow stream runs; while during the ascent and at the height of the pass it is a bad mountain road obstructed by great masses of rock. A couple of hours' riding and walking brought us to another walled town called Chu-yung-kuan, famous for a heavy arched stone gateway, the whole inside of which is covered with sculptures in low relief and a Buddhist inscription in six languages—Chinese, Thibetan, Mongol, Sanscrit, and two others that I could not get anyone to identify. From the other side of this gateway the pass of Nan-k'ou is spread out before you, a brown, barren, rock-strewn gloomy valley, rising and narrowing till it disappears in the hills, through which an endless file of brown camels is slowly passing, filling the air with the dust of their feet and the clangour of their bells. For an hour or more we jog on. Then when the pass has become wearisome and I am thousands of miles away in thought, my *mafoo* rides up beside me and silently points to the hill top on the right. I strain my eyes and there, sure enough, the skyline far away is broken by the crenellated outline of the Great Wall itself. "This," said Marco Polo when he saw it, "is the country of Gog and Magog."

The Great Wall of China is, after all, only a wall. And it was built with the same object as every other wall—to keep people from coming where they were not wanted. Mr. Toole's famous account of it is as historically accurate as any. "The most important building in China," he is accustomed to say, "is the Chinese Wall, built to keep the Tartars out. It was built at such an enormous expense that the Chinese never got over it. But the Tartars did. And the way they accomplished this feat was as follows: one went first and t'other went arter." It differs from other walls in only two respects, its age and its size. The former is 2,102 years, the latter is such that it is the only work of human hands on the globe visible from the moon. (I take no responsibility for either of these statements.) The Chinese name for it is *Wan-li-ch'ang-ch'êng*, "the wall ten thousand *li* long." And the gate on this high way is called *Pa-ta-ling* and is about fifty miles north-west of Peking and 2,000 feet above the sea. Beyond it lies Mongolia.

Half an hour after this first glimpse I stood upon the wall itself. The gateway is a large double one, with a square tower upon it, pierced with oblong openings for cannon, of which a dozen old ones lie in a heap, showing that at one time the road was seriously defended at this point. A rough stairway leads to the top, which is about twenty feet wide, with a crenellated parapet on each side, and you can walk along it as far as you can see, with here and there a scramble where it has fallen in a little. On the whole it is in excellent repair, having of course been mended and rebuilt many times. Every half mile or so is a little square tower of two stories. The wall itself varies a good deal in height according to the nature of the ground, averaging probably about forty feet. On one side Mongolia, as you see it, is a vast undulating brown plain; on the other side China is a perfect sea of brown hills in all directions, and across these stretches the Great Wall. On the hill tops, through the valleys, up and down the sides, it twists in an unbroken line, exactly like a huge earth-worm suddenly turned to stone. For many miles it is visible in both directions, and when you can no longer trace its entire length you can still discover it topping the hills one after another into the remote distance. And when you reflect that it is built of bricks, in almost inaccessible places, through uninhabited countries, that each brick must have been transported on a man's shoulders enormous distances, and that it extends for 2,000 miles, or one-twelfth of the circumference of the globe, you begin to realise that you are looking upon the most colossal achievement of human hands. The bricks are so big and heavy that I had to hire a little donkey to carry off two of them. This is the only piece of Vandalism to which I plead guilty on this trip, but the temptation was irresistible and "they never will be missed." Nowadays, of course, the wall serves no defensive purpose whatever and is not guarded in any way. Not a soul lives within miles of it at most points and it is but a landmark for the Mongols' camel-trains, a stupendous monument to the great past of China, and an evidence of Celestial greatness and enterprise gone never to return.

After taking a dozen photographs, and reflecting how comical now were the learned arguments produced in England a couple of years ago to prove that there was no such thing as a Great Wall of China, we turned back to Nan-k'ou, reaching there at nightfall. Next morning before daylight we started for the tombs of the great Ming dynasty, thirteen miles away, and as famous in China as the wall itself. These lie in a pleasant green valley surrounded with an almost complete circle of high wooded hills—an ideal spot for an Emperor's grave. There are thirteen of them, called the *Shih-san-ling*, disposed in the form of a crescent, but the crescent is so extensive that only four or five of them can be seen

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at once. I visited the largest, the tomb of Yung-lo, who reigned about 1,400. A square of perhaps two hundred yards across the face is surrounded with a high wall of plain red brick. The side of the hill forms the fourth side and entrance is had through a pair of ordinary wooden doors. When you enter the spectacle is not at all striking. There are a few little pavilions on either side of you, each covering a carved stone tortoise or an inscribed tablet, and in front a long low temple-shaped building with an approach of steps and balustrades in carved white marble. Inside is gloom, through which you faintly discern the magnificent outlines of thirty-two enormous wooden columns, each a solid log of hewn and polished teak twelve feet round and thirty-two feet high. Where they came from—unless it was from Burma—or how they were conveyed hither, nobody knows, but their grandeur is indisputable. In the centre, upon a sort of stone table, stands a perfectly plain tablet of red lacquer, a couple of feet high and a foot wide, bearing the posthumous title of Yung-lo, "The perfect ancestor and literary Emperor." But the ancestor himself is not here. Passing out behind the great columns and again crossing the garden, at the edge of the hill side there is a solid square tower of brick and granite, supporting a kind of obelisk. The sarcophagus itself is deep in the hill, and upon the obelisk a long inscription narrates the deeds and extols the virtues of the long-departed Ming. On the whole, however, China disappoints you here once more, as everywhere and always. The situation is finely chosen for the last resting-place of immortal emperors, but man's handiwork rather weakens than enhances the effects of nature. There is no suggestion, for instance, of the solemnity of that cathedral aisle—

"Where the warriors in the gloom
Watch o'er Maximilian's tomb;"

and there is nothing to arrest the hasty footstep lest even "the hushed tread"

"Should burst the bands of the dreamless sleep,
That hold the mighty dead."

As you ride away you pass though an avenue of stone carvings, where pairs of knights and courtiers and lions and camels and elephants glare at you from each side. They are enormous, being some fifteen feet high and carved out of a solid block of stone; and wonderful, for you cannot imagine how they were transported. But they are utterly dwarfed by the hills around them and soon your only recollection of them is that your pony positively refused to pass between them and ended by bolting with you. And I may as well conclude by giving my little Polar bear of a pony credit for the way in which he trotted back to Peking, so as to get there before the gates closed, in all forty miles in four hours, with three-quarters of an hour for rest and food. I have known costlier horseflesh make poorer progress. And when we got back again at last to Tientsin my *mafoo* sold him to the innkeeper for twice what he paid for him.

HENRY NORMAN.

LINK-BRIDGES.

SOCIETY HARKORT SYSTEM.

[COMMUNICATED.]

This system was devised for the special wants of tropical countries or of districts where skilled European labour is scarce or not to be had, and therefore, the erection of modern iron structures, requiring such labour, is either made impossible or very difficult. The following general description of the system may therefore be of interest.

In bridge building according to the manner in which the single bridge parts, as they proceed from the factory are joined together at the site to a complete structure, there is a distinction made between two chief systems, viz: riveted bridges, or in short *rivet-bridges*, and *link-bridges*. With rivet bridges, the junction of the several parts which have been previously riveted together as far as possible in the factory, is at the site likewise effected by rivets. With link-bridges however this connection is done by so-called link-pins. The construction of the several parts, accordingly, is an essentially different one with both bridge systems. The riveting labour is a labour of the blacksmith, a fire-labour, which requires learned skill and tradesman-like preparation. This labour must be executed particularly in bridge building with the utmost care and knowledge, lest the solidity and durability of the bridge might suffer by it. Now it is a fact, that in many districts, especially in transatlantic countries where industry is but little developed, expert handicraftsmen, notably blacksmiths and riveters, are to be had, either not at all, or but in very small number. To send them out from Europe is not always feasible, because the climate is often dangerous and the expenses are too high. Consequently iron bridges could not be built at all in many districts, if we were limited to rivet bridges alone. These points of view have led to the construction of link bridges generally, and the same have been improved and perfected by the Society Harkort at Driesburg on the Rhine in a peculiar, original system of their own, to the effect that, at the site, for the purpose of erection, no fire-labour at all has to take place, and not one single rivet needs to be driven. Herein the system advantageously differs from other systems hitherto known, in which rivetting still plays an important *rôle* at the site.

The erection consists in merely putting together and pinning or threading the single compact parts, a labour which can be performed by the most inexperienced labourers, easily, truly and moreover faultlessly. Bridges of the Harkort link system may therefore safely be characterised as the fittest one for colonies. The advantages and peculiarities of the same may be summed up as follows:—

1.—The bridges consist of the imaginably smallest number of single parts, for a bridge of from 40 to 50 metres length consists of but 93 larger parts, 32 pins, 72 screws for transmitting power, 14 wedges and 60 auxiliary screws.

2.—Each part forms a complete whole in itself, entirely finished at the workshop, and the workmanship is the best, because executed under the most favourable circumstances by the aid of special machines.

3.—The greater portion of the bridge parts offers convenient packages for shipment, neither too heavy nor too bulky.

4.—With the exception of the bed plate, no cast iron occurs in the whole bridge. It consists throughout of rolled and hammered iron, thus of a material which is but little exposed to getting damaged, in the transport as well as during the erection.

5.—The eyebars which belong to the bridge are forged from solid blocks. Any welding, the good quality of which depends upon the skill of the blacksmith and cannot be judged of by sight, does not occur at all.

6.—The erection of the main girders at the site requires but the driving in of a few strong linkpins which does not presuppose any special knowledge on the part of the workmen. Irregularities in putting the several parts together are, so to speak, excluded.

7.—The fastening of the cross girders to the main girders is very simple. Only four screws and one wedge are necessary for one joint. At the same time the connection is more solid than with other link bridges, and at least equivalent to the fastening by rivets.

8.—The fastening of the longitudinal girders to the cross girders is likewise very simple and safe. The longitudinal girders first of all rest upon notches attached to the cross girders, and are moreover fastened to the latter by screws.

9.—The wind bracings are simple and can easily be fixed. Above all they are theoretically correct and so arranged as to be extraordinarily efficacious, the like of which has not been attained hitherto in any other system of link bridges. For the wind diagonals are really placed in one and the same level with the bracings of the main girders and the cross girders, and thus form a true horizontal wind girder, in contrast with other constructions, in which very frequently the wind diagonals are placed far below the chords and are therefore quite inefficient, because by the arrangement, no real wind girders exist.

10.—The erection of these bridges requires the imaginably shortest time. Likewise but very few appliances and tools are necessary. By the aid of a gin, some pulleys and lifting jacks and some tools, the bridge can be erected. The Society Harkort has worked out special instructions for the erection of these bridges, with numerous sketches, and so written, that even a layman can understand them.

11.—The scaffolding may be light, because the erection is done very quickly, and the most favourable time, with respect to the prevalent water-levels, can be selected for the erection.

12.—In tropical countries the expenses of such a bridge, inclusive of the cost of erection, are far less than those of a rivet bridge. Though they weigh a little more than rivet bridges and, as a rule, the price per ton, at the works, exceeds that of rivet bridges, yet the total cost of the bridge comes to less than that of a rivet bridge, Even in Europe, where the climate is most favourable, and skilled labourers can be had in any number at moderate wages, the cost of a link bridge completely erected nearly equals the cost of a rivet bridge; in transatlantic countries however the proportion is at once changed very much in favour of link bridges. How much this is the case, depends of course upon circumstances. If there are no skilled labourers to be had on the spot, they must be procured from abroad at a great sacrifice of travelling expenses, but generally they are much more expensive than in Europe, even if they are to be had on the spot. These difficulties and expenses are entirely avoided by the Harkort link system. Besides, very often climatic circumstances (excessive heat in the tropics or the shortness of the days in the polar districts) admit of but the completion of a very small amount of work per day, whereby alone the expenses of the erection of rivet bridges are considerably enhanced as compared with the quick work of link bridges. There exist cases where the application of the link system alone permits the erection of a bridge at all. Every link bridge that is sent out by the Society Harkort is completely erected at the works, temporarily, and so marked that the points of joint of the several parts can easily be found. Moreover the bridges, when temporarily erected are photographed whereby a guarantee is given that all parts fit nicely. At the same time the photograph serves as a model for the definite erection. At the last Colonial Exhibition at Amsterdam the Harkort link-system was honoured by the highest distinction, the grant of the *diplome d'honneur*.

The immediate consequence was an order for all the bridges of the Deli Spoorweg Maatschappij in Sumatra. Then orders followed from various countries chiefly from Brazil and Japan. All those who hitherto got such bridges have clung to the system in all subsequent orders, shewing how much the advantages offered were appreciated.

To meet the difficulty in getting good rivet work abroad, the Society Harkort also supplies bridges of less than 15 metres length, which, on account of their smallness, cannot be executed as link bridges, so constructed that no riveting is necessary at the site. The connections of this type of bridges are effected by means of conical

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bolts and screws, which are accurately fitted into the holes at the works during the temporary erection. This connection is quite as solid as the best rivet connection, but offers the advantage that it can be performed without any mistake, and thoroughly well under the superintendence of any man who has but the slightest technical knowledge.

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 22nd May, 1889.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

Pootung Dock Co. *v.* James Simpson.

Mr. H. S. Wilkinson and Mr. C. Dowdall for the plaintiffs.

Mr. R. E. Wainewright for the defendant.

The hearing of this case was resumed this morning.

Mr. Dowdall asked that a list of payments by the plaintiff Company to the contractors under the contract of 27th October 1888 might be put in.

Mr. Wainewright said he would like to know the object the other side had in putting it in.

Mr. Dowdall said it was a list of 7 items which would show what the plaintiff Company had actually so far paid, and would no doubt be useful to the Court.

Mr. Wilkinson said that amongst other things it would show that some of the money had been disbursed some time ago, and the list would be useful in case a question of interest should arise.

Mr. Wainewright having no objection the list was then put in.

Mr. Dowdall then asked that a drawing made by Capt. Roberts, which was referred to in a letter already put in, and a draft contract, referred to in a letter already in Court, might be put in; and after some discussion they were put in.

Mr. Dowdall asked that a photograph which Mr. Wainewright had, showing the side of the caisson next the inside of the Dock, might be put in.

Mr. Wainewright positively declined to put it in and was proceeding to give reasons, when Mr. Dowdall said that as Mr. Wainewright declined to put it in, there was an end of the matter.

Mr. Wainewright then proceeded to sum up the case on behalf of the defendants. He said that the nominal defendant, as was well known, had no interest in the suit, but the suit was defended by gentlemen who were very vitally interested in the decision of the case. The main issue appeared to be whether the enquiry should be conducted on the lines suggested by Mr. Wilkinson in his opening, viz: as to whether the dock was in ordinary good repair, or whether, as he (Mr. Wainewright) put the issue, was the defendant, under the lease of 1884, bound to make good the defects which undoubtedly existed in January, 1888. He claimed that the whole of the lease should be looked at in deciding the case and not any one particular clause only. As to the interpretation of the lease, the Court would look to the intention of the parties, which was to be gathered from the language employed in the lease—in support of which contention he would cite *Elphinstone, Norton and Clark* on the Interpretation of Deeds, p. 36. In the case of *Rickman v. Carstairs* (5 B. and Ad. 663) Lord Denman lays it down "that the question is not what the parties to a deed may have intended to do by entering into a deed, but what is the meaning of the words used in that deed: a most important distinction in all classes of construction, and the disregard of which often leads to erroneous conclusions." In the case of *Grey v. Pierson* (6 House of Lords cases p. 106) Lord Wensleydale says "that in construing wills and indeed Statutes, and all written instruments, the grammatical and ordinary sense of the words is to be adhered to, unless that would lead to some absurdity . . . . in which case the grammatical and ordinary sense of the words may be modified, so as to avoid that absurdity or incongruity, but no further." Mr. Wainewright cited one or two other cases to much the same effect, and passed to the next rule which governed the interpretation of deeds, which was to be found in *Elphinstone* at page 47; and was to the effect that when the words used in a deed are in their primary meanings unambiguous, and when such meanings are not excluded by the context, and are sensible with respect to the circumstances of the parties at the time of executing the deed, such primary meanings must be taken to be those in which the parties used the words. The same authority also says that extraneous evidence is admissible to explain the primary meanings of words employed, but for no other purpose whatsoever. *Hext & Gill* (L. R. 7 Ch. p. 705) *Hart v. Hart* (18 Ch. Div. p. 692), and several other cases were cited in support of this exposition of the law. He then passed to the next rule (*Elphinstone p.* 76) to the effect that where the primary meaning of a word is excluded by the context, *i.e.*, by intrinsic evidence, we must affix to that word such of the meanings that it properly bears as will enable us to collect uniform and consistent intentions from every part of the deed. The cases of *Parkhurst v. Smith* (Wills p. 332), *Barton and Fitzgerald* (15 East p. 540) and other cases were cited in support of this. The next rule (*Elphinstone* p. 78) was to the effect that omitted words may be supplied, repugnant words may be rejected, words may be transposed, and false grammar or incorrect spelling may be disregarded, if the intention of the parties sufficiently appear from the context. Also where a deed contains both a general vague, or indefinite, and also an exact or particular statement of intention, the latter must prevail. Such, he would submit, were the rules which should guide the Court in the interpretation of the lease. He would now pass to the cases bearing on the question as to the liability of tenants to repair. *Woodfall* at page 562 has it that a general covenant to repair is satisfied by the lessee keeping the premises in substantial repair; a literal performance of the covenant is not to be required. When a lessee covenants to keep old premises in repair, he is not liable for such dilapidations as result from the natural operation of time and the elements; and with a view to determine the relative sufficiency of repair, the jury may consider whether the house was new or old at the time of the demise; and what its then state of repair and condition generally, not in detail. Reading cases in support of this latter contention occupied the Court till 12 o'clock, at which hour the proceedings were adjourned till 2 p.m.

On the assembling of the Court this afternoon,

Mr. Wainewright said that before going into the question of the lease, he proposed to go a little into the facts prior to the date of the lease. The Dock was constructed in the year 1863, and came into the possesion of the defendants on the 8th of Dec. 1872, when it was conveyed to them. By a deed of even date with the conveyance the Dock Co. leased the Dock to the defendants. This deed contains a covenant that the tenants would keep the premises in a perfect state of repair. The next thing is a report of Mr. Henry Lester, dated 30th Jan., 1873, but he would not say anything more about that as in 1875 a fresh lease was granted to Messrs. Farnham & Co., and it contained an exactly similar covenant to repair to that contained in the original lease. This lease was for a term of 12 years which would end in 1886. Some time later Mr. Twombly, an adjoining owner, erected a breakwater and the Dock Co. contributed towards the expense. In 1883 the Dock or some of the adjuncts of it seem to have got considerably out of repair; and Messrs. Farnham & Co. drew up a Report specifying a quantity of repairs which they considered were required. This report contains a statement to which he would specially call the attention of the Court, viz., that new piles were required and a statement that the caisson had lately been docked by them. On the 16th of May Messrs. Farnham & Co. wrote to the company proposing that certain repairs estimated to cost Tls. 20,000 should be done, and proposing to do all this work if the company would pay them Tls. 10,000, or if the company would grant a new lease similar to that of the Old Dock, they (Messrs. Farnham & Co.) would do the repairs at their own expense. To this the Secretaries replied declining both the propositions, and suggesting that the matter would be one for a general meeting. Later on, on the same subject, Messrs. Farnham & Co. wrote to the Secretaries saying that they did not see their way to getting sufficient shareholders to sign a requisition, and asking for permission to pull down some houses. This permission was granted and Messrs. Farnham & Co. were called on to repair generally. After referring to some further correspondence, Mr. Wainewright stated that at the end of 1883 matters stood practically as stated and that Messrs. Farnham & Co. were invited to call a general meeting.

By letter dated 16th January 1884 Messrs. Farnham & Co. wrote again to the Secretaries with a report made out by themselves shewing the condition in which the property was. That letter apparently produced nothing; because they (F. & Co.) were forced to call a meeting, and they were driven to split up their own shares among a sufficient number of persons to enable them to call a meeting, and this they accordingly did. Mr. Francis at the meeting described how the division was made, and suggested that this course was adopted for the purpose of forcing a lease on the Company: the fact being that it was necessary for them to split up their shares in order to get a hearing of their claims.

On the 18th January a requisition was made for a meeting signed by 12 shareholders, but the Directors declined to call a meeting.

His Lordship said that it would appear that the Directors were bound to call a meeting under this requisition, and asked why they did not do so.

Mr. Wilkinson said that he had no instructions on the subject—it might be that the signatories were insufficient.

His Lordship said that the Deed of Settlement contemplated such a case by giving power to the requisitionists to call a meeting themselves.

Mr. Wainewright continuing his address said that after this the Chairman issued a circular to the shareholders setting out what he considered the company's views of the matter, saying that if the terms proposed were accepted it would be necessary to put by an annual sum, and going into other matters. The meeting was held and Mr. Francis addressed the meeting and Messrs. Farnham & Co.'s proposal was amended and made more favourable to the Company, and every one turned round and voced for Messrs. Farnham & Co.'s proposal. Then the new lease was granted in 1884, but simultaneously with this, there was a surrender of the old lease endorsed on it—but whether there is any evidence that it was executed by the Company does not appear.

His Lordship referred to the deed of surrender and said it was not executed by the Company.

Mr. Wainewright continuing said that that surrender admitted that the covenant as to repairs had been performed up to that date and that admission he contended estopped

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both parties from denying that the Dock was then in good repair.

It would be seen from the Table of Fluctuations of Shares which had been put in to Court that no material drop occurred in the shares after the meeting as a result of a lease *forced on the Company*.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT then took up the lease; and after referring to the form of the parcels, which appeared to have been copied from previous leases, submitted that the whole document would have to be read together, and that the subjects upon which Tls. 20,000 was to be spent included the wharves, although the plaintiffs contended that this was not so. Then the covenant goes on to provide for keeping the premises in ordinary good repair—the bursting of the Dock from any unforeseen cause only excepted. The next question is, what is the meaning of ordinary good repair—he would contend that what was meant was repairs which are nothing out of the common, and he thought that the subsequent clauses of the lease very clearly showed this. The next covenant as to repairs is as to yielding up the Dock pumps, etc., building and premises in as good repair as they shall be after the repairs contemplated by the lease. There is, of course, no breach of this covenant as defendant has not delivered up the premises. Then the lease goes on to say that the pumps shall be delivered up in an ordinary good state of repair—that is fit for working for a year after the termination of the lease. The lease authorised the lessors to enter upon the premises and give notice of all decays, defects and wants of repair—this, he submitted, must be confined to such decays, defects and wants of reparation as, considering the previous clauses, ought not to exist. The lease provides that in case of bursting in, the rent shall be suspended. He submitted that the expression "giving way" occurring in the next clause is a definition of the previous word "bursting"—and that the two clauses ought to be read together. The case, he would submit, comes to this that if Defendant could prove that there had been such a giving way as to render the dock useless, and if there had been such an irruption of water by the giving way of the structure of the dock then there had been a "busting in" of the dock. He would submit that the weight of evidence as far as expert evidence was concerned, went so show that what had happened was a "bursting in," and if it was not that, then it was a giving way.

Further hearing adjourned till 10.30 a.m. to-morrow.

23rd May.

The hearing of this case was resumed this morning at 10.30 and Mr. Wainewrignt continued his address on behalf of the defendant. Commenting on the evidence given by Mr. Geo. Lewis, which was taken before the hearing, he pointed out that Mr. Lewis had stated that Tls. 500 out of the rent received was to go to a reserve fund to provide against a bursting of the Dock. Then as to the Tls. 20,000 expenditure—that expenditure was defined in a report and letter of Farnham & Co., written in May 1883, and the terms there expressed remained in the minds of both parties up till the time the lease was executed. Mr. Morrison in his evidence says that he admits that (apart from dates,) all the repairs required by the covenant had been concluded. (Extracts from Mr. Morrison's evidence read). Then as to the repairs made before the execution of the lease—it was well understood that they were intended to be included in the covenant.

Mr. Francis admits that he told the shareholders, as he is represented in the minutes to have done at various times, that the repairs were satisfactorily executed and he would submit that it was too late now for him to say that he only referred to the pumps. He also states that the work already done, he understood, was included in the estimate of Tls. 20,000.

The question resolved itself into this:—are the defendants entitled to credit for the money expended on the wharves and caisson? He submitted that they were for, as Capt. Roberts put it, the wharves are "appliances" of the dock, for the dock could not be worked without them and the caisson is as much a part of the dock, as this door is part of the Court.

His LORDSHIP—No caisson no dock.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—Exactly. my Lord. Then as to the expense of rebuilding the house that was burnt down. Defendants have expended Tls. 3,600 which they have included in the Tls. 20,000, and the plaintiffs seek to have this sum disallowed because we got the money from the Insurance company. Now all that the defendants understook to do was to lay out Tls. 20,000 on works, including the rebuilding of this particular house, but they did not say where the money to do it with was to come from. All their obligation under the covenant in the lease as to insurance was performed when they reinstated the house. The old material belonged to defendants anyhow.

Mr. WILKINSON said that the value of the old materials was deducted by the Insurance Co.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT admitted that that was so; and proceeded to argue that the fact that the rebuilding cost defendants less that they got from the Insurance Co. was due to the fact that they did the work themselves, whereas, if they had employed a contractor it would probably have cost them considerably more.

His LORDSHIP—Does not the covenant as to insurance require you to expend all the money you receive from the Insurance Co.?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The house was reinstated, we must presume, (in the absence of any evidence on the point) in as good a state as it was in originally.

His LORDSHIP—What evidence is there as to reinstatement?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The house was rebuilt some years ago, and as the plaintiffs have never, up till now, made any complaint, it may be presumed that they accepted it. If defendants chose to insure that was a question between them and the Insurance Co., and had nothing to do with the plaintiffs—there was nothing in the covenant to compel us to do more than rebuild the house as it was before, and it was unnecessary, as far as he (Mr. Wainewright) could see, for the defendants to gild all the doors of the house or French-polish the blacksmith's shop in order to use up the money they had received from the Insurance Co.

His LORDSHIP—It is for you to prove the reinstatement; if you had spent the money you received from the Insurance Co. upon the rebuilding of the house, then it might fairly have been presumed that there had been a reinstatement. If they were to assume anything, plaintiffs might, for example, assume that you had not done what you covenanted to do.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—The plaintiffs anyhow appear to have thought we had done all we ought to have done in the matter, inasmuch as they said nothing at all in the way of complaint for three years. Passing then to the remaining points in the case the first question appeared to be as to the state of repair of the dock—with regard to this there were the minutes of the meeting of the 12th Jan. 1885 at which the Chairman said the lease had been signed, and at another meeting on the 14th January the Chairman said the works had been satisfactory. Mr. Simpson also stated that the dock was in very good order, and at the next meeting the Chairman made a statement to the same effect, and at a meeting in January 1888 he made the statement that nothing had occurred since they last met to which he need refer. The learned council then commented at considerable length upon the evidence of Mr. Morrison on the subject of the general state of the premises, and pointed out the very considerable variation between the opinion he expressed in his report and that he gave in the witness box. Mr. Kingsmill had even outstripped his leader, and according to him everything was rotten in the extreme. The defendant's witnesses on the other hand gave a very different account of the state of things.—Mr. Warburg and Mr. Lester for instance, who might be taken to be wholly disinterested persons, both concurred in saying that defendants had done all in the way of repairs that could usefully be done, and Mr. Lester was of opinion that original weakness of construction was the cause of the north bunding getting into the condition it was in. Mr. Wainewright then proceeded to read extracts from the evidence of Mr. Black, who stated that he considered that it was a perfect mystery how the dock got into such a condition.

His LORDSHIP asked Mr. Wainewright what was his explanation of the mystery.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said that he looked upon the increasing scour of the river as the cause—the foundations were being sapped until all at once the whole thing gave way.

His LORDSHIP said that Capt. Roberts appeared to think there was no connection between the failure of the bunding and the dock entrance.

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT said that the gradual eating through of the structure rendered it possible for the water to force its way through the weak places at the entrance.

The next question was whether the defendants ought or ought not to have foreseen what has occurred. It has been suggested that Simpson, being in the employ of Muirhead at the machine shop, ought to have known of the condition of the dock, but the evidence does not support that contention, inasmuch as the machine shop was some very considerable way from the dock, and Simpson never had any business at the dock, and as a matter of fact seldom or never went near it. Then another point was attempted to be made of the fact that one of the partners in Farnham & Co. and his wife got rid of their shares, because as it is supposed, they thought the dock was beginning to get shaky—the explanation of this is simple enough and is merely that the partner alluded to happened to be going home at the time.

Commenting further on Mr. Morrison's evidence Mr. Wainewright said that he put forward a certain number of theories. He took up the notion that the whole thing has been going on from time to time—and even while he was giving his evidence his beautiful new bunding was going steadily into the river. He thought that Mr. Morrison had shewn that his opinion was occasionally not worth much—one passage in his written report was worth more than what he had said with the enthusiasm of a witness.

The evidence for the plaintiffs seeks to show that we could have foreseen everything, but they don't show that we could have remedied everything. Referring to Mr. Galles' letter of the 26th of January 1888—he thought there was a certain amount of exaggeration about it—made no doubt with a view to stirring up their landlord—there certainly was some evidence of leakage under the sill, as distinguished from the leakage under the floor; but even if this letter was to outweigh the evidence, the leakage referred to could not have been stopped.

His LORDSHIP—You were able to put two ships into the dock after you say it had burst; why did you not do something to the dock instead of putting in these two vessels?

Mr. WAINEWRIGHT—All the witnesses agree in saying that we could do nothing without a cofferdam. We put the two ships in at our own risk.

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His Lordship—Mr. Twentyman, I think it was, says "we were afraid to do anything to the Dock until we got rid of these two vessels." I should like to hear you on this as I expect something will be made of it—there was no cross-examination on the point.

Mr. Wainewright said that a few days was not a matter of any moment when matters had reached the stage they were in by that time. Nothing effective in the way of repairs could have been done then under any circumstances.

Adjourned till 10 a.m. on Saturday.

H.B.M.'S CIVIL SUMMARY COURT.

Shanghai, 18th May.

Before R. A. Mowat, Esq.

SING AN *v.* J. W. CALLAWAY.

Mr. Callaway appeared to answer the following complaint by a native missionary named Sing An. The complainant who was dressed in foreign fashion stated that on Sunday, the 5th inst. at 11 a.m. he was walking along the grass plot on the Bund when two dogs belonging to the defendant attacked him, bit him in several places on the legs and right arm and tore his clothing. The complainant showed the Court the injuries which appeared to have been inflicted in the manner described; there were three or four lacerated wounds on each leg and two or three on the right arm, all apparently healing. He said that he suffered very much from the pain of the wounds which he had dressed by Dr. Boone and afterwards by Dr. Milles. He claimed $16 for medical attendance and $10 for medicine. He had done nothing to provoke the dogs which were with two gentlemen—one of whom was Mr. Callaway—who were a short distance off. The affair was witnessed by Mr. Denny and Mr. McKean whom he could produce as witnesses. The defendant said in explanation, that on the day in question he was walking along the bund with a gentleman in the Customs who is now in Ningpo. One of the dogs, a bull dog, was walking at his heel; while the other a bull terrier was running about in front of them. The complainant passed them and began waving his stick at the bull terrier which is a very quiet dog and had never bitten anyone before. The dog thought the complainant was playing with him and took hold of him by the sleeve scratching him slightly in doing so. Defendant ran up to take the terrier away, when the bull dog seeing a struggle going on between the terrier and the complainant seized the latter by the leg of the trousers. Defendant then got up to the place and took the dogs off. He had not heard anything about the matter since till he got the summons and he had not seen Dr. Milles about the man's injuries. The complainant denied that he waved his stick at the dogs. His Honour adjourned the case till Tuesday in order that the defendant might see Dr. Milles and ascertain if the man had really been bitten, and intimated that the case was one for settlement. Mr. Callaway said he had no objection to settle the case, but he had not had any opportunity.

21st May.

This case came before the Court again this morning. Mr. Callaway produced a certificate from Dr. Milles stating the nature of the injuries that had been inflicted on the plaintiff by the bites he had received from Mr. Callaway's dogs.

Mr. Callaway stated that he had made an offer to plaintiff which considering that the accident had arisen through the plaintiff's own fault, he considered sufficiently liberal. He had offered the plaintiff $10 to settle the case, but the plaintiff appeared to desire that the case should go on.

Plaintiff in answer to His Honour stated that he had to pay for medical attendance. Both Dr. Milles and Dr. Boone had asked several times for their fees—he also had to pay something for medicine. His clothes were also very much torn and damaged by Mr. Callaway's dogs.

Several articles of clothing of European make were produced and found to be in a more or less damaged condition.

Mr. Callaway then offered $15 to square the matter.

His Honour said he advised plaintiff to accept this offer, but intimated that he would proceed with the case if plaintiff desired him to do so.

Plaintiff then, with some apparent reluctance, was understood to say something to the effect that he would accept the $15 in satisfaction of his claims.

His Honour addressing Mr. Callaway said that he (Mr. Callaway) now knew from the certificate of Dr. Milles that his dogs had really bitten somebody and consequently if anything of that sort happened in the future he would not be in the position he was now.

H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 21st May.

Before R. A. Mowat Esq.

REGINA *v.* ROBERT ROUTHLEDGE.

Accused, who is mess-room steward on board the *Port Fairy*, was brought up by the Police charged with being drunk and creating a disturbance on board yesterday, and with threatening to stab the Chief Officer with a knife.

Accused admitted being a bit drunk but denied having threatened to use a knife on the Chief Officer—all he said was that if they tied him up and ill-treated him again as they had been doing, that he would use his knife.

George Valentine, Chief Officer of the *Port Fairy*, stated that accused was very drunk yesterday afternoon and was going about the deck kicking up a great row, and making use of very bad language. In order to keep him quiet and out of mischief, he with the assistance of one of the other officers, made him fast to the rudder post in the saloon aft. This was about 3 o'clock. Some time afterwards accused got loose and was going forward when witness stopped him and told him to remain on the main deck. The man had his knife in his hand at the time and he held it up and said "I'll stick it into you if you come nigh me." He also had a large table knife sticking out of one of his pockets. After this I gave him into the custody of P.C. Barnes, who happened to be on board. Accused told me when we were in the saloon that he would poison all hands if he ever had the chance.

Accused complained that he had been very much ill-treated by the two officers in the saloon—that they had knocked his head up against the stanchion and raised lumps as big as hens' eggs, and that his jaw had been badly cut and nearly broken.

His Worship ordered Inspector Kluth to examine these alleged inquiries. The Inspector made a careful search in the thick beard of the accused and at length discovered a slight scratch—the head was then examined and two small bumps reported, which however, did not appear to be the result of any heavy blows.

P.C. Barnes was then examined and stated that he happened to be on board the *Port Fairy* yesterday afternoon and saw accused making a disturbance on deck. The Chief Officer asked what he had better do with the man and witness replied that he could give him in charge if he liked, but that it would be better to send for some irons, and in the meantime, until the irons could be got, they had better make the man fast. This was then done, but some time afterwards the man again appeared on deck flourishing a knife and threatening the Chief Officer. Witness took him into custody and accused then said "You had better take me on shore out of this and get me 3 months, or I will poison all hands.

His Worship asked the Chief Officer if he had had any trouble with accused on any previous occasion. The Chief Officer said that he had not had any trouble with the man himself before yesterday, but the man had shipped as cook at £6 a month and had been disrated by the Captain and was now rated as Mess Steward at £2 a month. He hoped his Worship would not pass over the matter as it would be a bad example to the rest of the crew. As far as he (Chief Officer) was concerned, if accused went back to the ship he would take very good care that the man did not come round with *his* coffee of a morning.

His Worship—You surely don't mean to say that you are in fear of the man trying to poison you.

Witness—I won't say that exactly—but he certainly *said* he would poison us, and I don't feel inclined to risk anything.

His Worship pointed out to accused the result of his conduct and sentenced him to 14 days' hard labour.

Two brothers Walter and Robert Waddle, Firemen of the same ship, were then placed in the dock charged with assaulting the 3rd officer. Both men denied the charge.

Anthony Cumming, 3rd officer, stated that he was at the gangway yesterday afternoon when he observed the two accused coming on board. Walter, who was a good deal the worse for liquor, threw down his cap on the deck and told witness to pick it up, he then wanted to fight and offered witness a dollar to go down on the wharf and fight. Soon after this the other brother came up and said that if there was any fighting to be done he would do it himself. He was also drunk as far as witness could make out.

Robert here interposed, and stated with considerable force that he had not touched a drop of liquor for 17 months and had never had any trouble on board the ship before.

The 3rd Officer said that the Log Book would show how much truth there was in that statement. The Log Book was then produced and an entry pointed out to his Worship. Whereupon Walter addressing the Court said—"You can easily see your Worship that the whole thing is a put up job—all that in the Log Book was all cooked up last night."

The Chief Engineer in reply to the Court stated that the entry was signed last night.

His Worship said that entries should be made as soon after the occurrence as possible. In the present instance he could not take any notice of the entry referred to.

Walter stated that when he was coming on board last night he saw the mate by the gangway and asked him to show him where the ladder was and that the latter replied that he did not keep a ladder for such trash as him, and thereupon offered to fight him. He admitted that he was a bit drunk, but he was quite clear that the mate wanted to fight with him.

His Worship said that he could not believe that the mate had challenged Walter to fight. He (Walter) was certainly drunk and the mate was sober. He would consequently believe the mate's story in preference to Walter's. Walter would have to pay a fine of $3 and costs and Robert $1 and costs.

TO THE DEAF.—A Person cured of Deafness and noises in the head of 23 years' standing by a simple remedy, will send a description of it FREE to any Person who applies to Nicholson, 21, Bedford Square, London, W.C., England.

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Miscellaneous Intelligence.

BIRTHS.

At the Hotel des Colonies, Shanghai, on the 19th May, the wife of Captain E. PIPER, of a son.

At Shanghai on the 22nd instant, the wife of ANDREW MCKELVIE of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 22nd instant, at the German Consulate-General, and, afterwards, before the Rev. R. T. Stevenson, CHARLES EMILE GUINAND, of La Chaux-de-Fonds, Switzerland, to SUSAN HICKS, of Jefferson, State of New Hampshire, U.S.A.

DEATHS.

On the 10th April, at Cressingham Grove, Sutton, Surrey, ARTHUR BURROWS, late of Shanghai, aged 38.

At Dunnet, Scotland, on the 4th April, JESSIE, the beloved wife of G. Taylor, I.M. Customs.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 22nd May, 1889, THOMAS FORREST (late Chief Officer, s.s. *Fuhwo*), aged 55 years.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 22nd May, CHARLES BROWN (late Master American Lorcha *Annie*), aged 57 years.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Hiogo Maru*, for Vladivostock—Messrs. Boyd Bredon, J. O. P. Bland, A. Ross, and Col. Clarke.

Per str. *Tokio Maru*, for Kobe—Mrs. Crawford, child and maid, Counts W. and F. Rothenburg, Baron Krane, Messrs. Eyre Coote, W. E. Maxwell, Beurmann, Hirsch; and Hagens. For Yokohama—Lieut. and Mrs. Fischer, Major-General and Mrs. O'Shaughnessy, Rev. and Mrs. Edwards, Madame Amerling, Mrs. Butler and child, Messrs. P. V. Grant and R. F. Eastlack For San Francisco—Mr. and Mrs. Robertson.

Per str. *Calédonien*, for Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Joseph, Mrs. A. W. Leach, Messrs. C. L. Nolan, Posthumous, Clifford, C. T. Stewart, H. Hughes and Yong Ye Ching. For Marseilles—Mr. and Mrs. W. Carlson, Mrs. Pessy, Mrs. Chollot and 2 children, Messrs. F. Carlson, C. Carlson, A. Courtau and child, Videloup, Mondini and Radamelle.

Per str. *Kowshing*, for Chefoo and Tientsin—Prince and Princess Cariati, Miss Cividin, Mrs. Hovell, and Mr. Bressi.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Neckar*, from Bremen—Mr. S. A. Walte. From Southampton—Mrs. Clifton and child, Messrs. Tang Chin Tsai and Wang E. Sing. From Colombo—Mrs. Williams. From Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. Suenson and family, Mr. and Mrs. Fischer, Mr. Charson and family, Messrs. Carall, Nuner and Cliffe.

Per str. *Tokio Maru*, from Yokohama, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. S. Poesnecker and child, Mrs. Forsaith, Messrs. E. Hagens and J. Beattie.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Ven Archdeacon Moule.

Per str. *Hsean*, from Tientsin—His Ex. Sung, family and suite.

Per str. *Haeting*, from Tientsin—Mrs. and Miss Hearson, Messrs. Vang, Shen and Chun. From Chefoo—Mr. Petter.

Per str. *Fuyew*, from Taku Bar and Chefoo—Reverends Robert and Douat.

Per str. *Sual*, from Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Gupen.

Per str. *Kiangfoo*, from Hankow—Rev. Bishop Boone, Mrs. Boone and son. From Nankin—Madame de Amerling.

Per str. *Ningpo*, from Hongkong—Capt. Ahrends.

Per str. *Taiwo*, from Hankow—Mr. Adamson.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mr. M. Keedo.

Per str. *Haeshin*, from Foochow—Mr. Chang and servant.

Per str. *Kiangyu*, from Hankow—Messrs. Bromfeldt and Westphal.

Per str. *Ichang*, from Ningpo—Mrs. Butler.

Per str. *Tungchow*, from Tientsin—Baron De Gunzburg, Messrs. Sassoon and Abraham.

Per str. *Pekin*, from Kiukiang—Mr. E. Behn. From Nankin—Mr. Heut.

Per str. *Ichang*, from Ningpo—Mrs. Amerling.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer		Thermometer in shade		Hygrometer at 9 A.M.		Wind.		Rain-fall in inches previous 24 hours.
	10 A.M.	Attached Therm.	Max.	Min.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Force.	Direction	
May									
19	30.05		69.0	62.0	55.0	59.0	56.0	1 N.W.	..
20	30.04		62.0	69.0	56.0	62.0	58.0	3 S.E.	..
21	29.95		62.0	70.0	58.0	62.0	60.5	2 N.N.E.	..
22	29.96		63.5	64.0	59.0	63.5	62.0	1 N.N.W.	..
23	29.97		64.0	72.0	59.0	64.0	62.0	1 S.S.W.	..
24	29.95		70.0	77.0	66.0	70.0	66.0	2 S.W.	..
25	29.96		69.0	79.5	64.0	69.0	65.0	3 N.N.W.	..

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 24th May, 1889.

PIECE GOODS.—There is no alteration in the position of our market, it still drags in a most aggravating manner. Nor is it much use for Importers to try and meet it, it would be simply lowering rates without gaining any advantage in return, the dealers being still without orders from the country and prices show no signs of giving way at home. This month is notably a dull one in the Piece Goods trade, but this year it appears worse than ever, and the end of it is, consequently, anxiously waited for. As might have been expected lower prices have been the order of the day at the auctions, but private sellers for the most part have managed to extract the rates which were ruling previously, the quantity, however, remains quite insignificant. Clearances on the whole have been very satisfactory this month, but latterly show a falling off, it being a noteworthy thing that not a single piece of soft goods appears amongst the deliveries for Chefoo declared this week. Another illustration of the dejected state of trade in the North is found in the reply of a native friend, who, in answer to an enquiry as to the position of the Tientsin market, remarked that, although there were eighteen native houses here engaged in the Piece Goods trade with that port, the steamer which left the day previously took only 12 packages! Stocks, which were beginning to look in a more healthy position a few weeks ago, are now assuming dangerous proportions again, and the heavy April export has yet to arrive. Woollens are still very depressed and doing badly, but they are not likely to be laid down any cheaper, as we hear, on good authority, that, in consequence of the strong position of the Woollen market, prices at home have gone up 1s. per piece for Camlets and ½d. per yard for Spanish Stripes.

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs.—Sales of about 15,000 pieces have been reported, at T$1.45 for *Black Dragon*, T$1.59 net for *Red Rhinoceros* and *Red Cormorant*, T$1.63 for *Red Lion and Flag*, T$1.71 net for *Red Pagoda*, T$1.72½ for *Red Wheatear*, T$1.75 for *Blue 7-Child*, T$1.77½ for *Blue Joss*, T$1.80 for *Guardsman*, T$1.81½ for *Blue Dragon* (Nie-kee), and T$1.94 for *Blue Dragon and 5 Old Men*. The demand is still good and clearances prompt for best makes, but these are the only ones wanted. Other grades have not been much dealt in privately, and at auction rates have gone against the sellers.

6 and 7-lbs.—The small auction lots continue to supply the demand, and judging from the prices are more than sufficient, the few bales 6-lb. goods sold yesterday being the only ones that show any improvement.

9.12 to 11-lbs.—Transactions are small, say 6,000 pieces, but prices remain the same, namely, 10-lbs. *Blue 7-Child* T$2.02½, and *Woman and Boat* T$2.06, 9.12-lbs. *Red Horse Head A* T$2.13 net, 11-lbs. *John Bull* T$2.26, and *Moon* T$2.40.

12-lbs.—The only sales we hear of are *John Bull* EEE at T$2.47, and ditto DDD T$2.59, showing a slight decline, but the market is fairly steady.

White Shirtings.—May is usually a bad month for these goods, and this year is certainly no exception, for scarcely anything has been done, the only sale mentioned being *Ewo No 3* at T$2.00. A few small lots of special makes have been taken at from T$2.35 up to T$3.70, but the business is quite on a retail scale. Auction rates are very weak, particularly for the lower grades.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—There is very little demand and prices are drooping at auction, the only transactions privately, that have been mentioned, are *Sin-wo Horse* 31-inch at T$1.13, *Man and Elephant* T$1.17, and *Koong-bing Joss* T$1.44.

8-lbs.—The same may be said of these, the best makes showing the only signs of steadiness. Privately EWO has been taken at T$1.67½.

Bombay makes continue very depressed and stocks heavy, the natives appearing to have no use for them.

Drills.—*English*.—A sale is mentioned of 1,500 pieces *Dragon* (Sun-lee) at T$2.15, and this comprises the week's business as far as we can learn.

American.—Here, too, only one transaction is mentioned, namely, 1,500 pieces *Pepperell Flying Dragon* at T$2.80 less 1 per cent., showing a drop of 5 candareens on the last sale. Stocks are getting heavy, and this, apparently, is making holders anxious to quit.

Jeans.—*English*.—In spite of the favourable statistical position there is no enquiry for these goods whatever, and the small lot sold at auction declined 2 candareens.

Sheetings.—*English*.—Some 8,000 pieces have been placed this week, but prices are very low for the medium makes, Ewo *Shield* selling at T$2.20 less 1 per cent. The demand is very slack still and this business was only induced by the low rate. A small sale has also been made of *Mandarin KK* at T$2.47½.

American.—Further attempts have been made by our native friends to lower the market by publishing fictitious purchases, such as *Indian Head* at T$2.77½ and *Appleton* at T$2.67½ both less 1 per cent., they however, have been contradicted, and, so far from selling at these prices, T$2.77½ net has been refused, although prompt cash was offered. An offer of T$2.65 for *Massachusettes Flying Horse* has also been declined and, up to the time of writing, we have not heard of any actual transactions. If holders keep firm we are almost certain to see higher prices for the standard chops.

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Cotton Yarn.—*English.*—No sales have appeared, the market keeping very quiet.

Bombay.—The market is depressed, and the small business passing is mostly at lower prices—Sales, amounting to 433 bales, are as follows.

No. 10s., 63 bales—*F. Petit (Fish)* ₹51½ *M. Petit* ₹53½.

No. 16s., 250 bales.—*Mahaluxmee* ₹55½. *Kunsara* ₹58¼, *Alexandra (Pagoda)* ₹59¼ and *E. D. Sassoon (Dragon)* ₹60¾.

No. 20s., 120 bales.—*Sooneri Mahal* ₹58½, *James Greaves* ₹58¾, *Howard and Bullough* ₹59, *Amjad Bach* ₹59/58¾ and *Connaught* ₹59¾.

Fancy Goods.—The quietness of the market is severely felt in this department and holders find it difficult to effect sales or get indents cleared. There is no change in quotations of *Turkey Reds*, but the business is trifling. *Velvets* are as dull as ever and sales have to be forced, a few 22 inch, ordinary quality, have been placed at ₹0 11. *Velveteens* have been offered at auction but only realised ₹0.15 for 26 inch, there being no demand for Newchwang. *Muslins* continue selling at ₹0.53½ for *Red Lion*. *Prints* and *Dyed Goods* are extremely quiet, but the stocks are gradually diminishing.

Woollens.—The auction sales have generally gone in favour of the buyers, though one or two of the common chops of *Camlets* show some recovery. Last year these goods began gradually, but steadily to improve after this date, so it is to be hoped the bottom has now been touched. *Long Ells.*—Auction prices were a trifle firmer, but the demand is very small and the only private sale mentioned is *V Scarlet* at ₹5.02½. *Lastings* do not keep up, the auction disposals going in favour of the buyers again. *Spanish Stripes* are firmer all round, but clearances have not improved much yet. Other makes have been neglected.

Opium.—Closing quotations :- Malwa (new) ₹390, (old) ₹420, Patna (new) ₹380, Benares (new) ₹370.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie & Burkill's Circular :—London telegrams quote Silk dull. Red Pagoda No. 2 13/6, S.S.S. 11/9, Gold Kilin 11/.

Raw Silks.—Settlements for the week include about 80 bales Tsatlees, 35 bales of Kahings and 25 bales of Yellow Silks at quotations.

New Crop.—*It seems to be generally admitted that the crop will be larger than last year, and the quality is expected to prove satisfactory.* Next week we shall be able to give an estimate of the probable supply available for export.

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, from the 17th to the 24th May are about 35 bales of White Silks, 10 piculs of Yellow Silks and 260 piculs of Wild Silks.

Re-reels.—Small purchases of market grades have been made at easier prices. No fresh arrivals are expected until July.

Wild Silks.—Settlements are about 120 piculs at ₹127½ a ₹132½ for Tussah Raw.

Waste Silks.—Market dull. Tussah Waste Nos. 1 and 2 has been placed at ₹67½ and 63½, and some Chingwha, whole bales, at ₹63¾.

Shantung Pongees.—Sales are about 1,000 pieces at ₹2.45 for 21/22 oz. goods.

Purchases include :—Tsatlees.—S.S.S. ₹330, Gold Kelin ₹315, Chay Kelin ₹292½. Taysaam.—White Kahings, Gold Lion Nee-or ₹320, Green Kahings Almond Flower I ₹312½, ditto M. ₹312½. Yellow Silk.—Mienchow ₹280, Wongyi ₹250. Tussah.—Raw ₹127½ a 132½. Re-reeled Tsatlee.—Market I ₹377½, ditto II ₹367½

	1888-89.	1887-88.	1886-87.	1885-86.	1884-85.	1883-84.
Settlements for this mail † ..... about	500	250	250	250	100	200 bales.
„ for the season † .. „	58,200	59 520	62,250	57,000	57,850	55,700 „
Stock .... „	1,200	2,000	2,750	5,500	4,000	1,800 „
Total Arrivals ..... „	59,400	61,250	65,000	62,500	61,850	57,500 „

† Exclusive of purchases for re-sale on this market.

	England.	*France, &c.*	*Total Europe.*	*America.*	*India & Egypt.*	*Coast & Straits.*	*Grand Total.*
Export White Silk	5,494	30,338	35,832	4,666	437	1,201	42,136 bales.
„ Yellow „	62	5,014	5,076	2	1,955	380	7,413 „
„ Wild „	2,907	5,327	8,234	97	...	6	8,337 „
	8,463	40,679	49,142	4 765	2,392	1,587	57,886 „
Against in 1887-88.....	8,704	41,307	50,011	3,780	2,995	1,827	58,613 „
„ 1886-87.....	6,261	46,753	53,014	6,022	1,395	1,347	61,778
Export—Waste Silk	14,266	19,635	33,901	3	137	121	34,162 piculs.
„ Cocoons	4,137	1,611	5,748	60	53	.....	5,861 „

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

Also 1,145 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.

„ 115 „ „ to Continent.

Shares.—The business of the week comprises Hongkong Banks at 172 per cent. premium, 170, 168 and 171; New O.B.C. gold warrants at £10 15s. with exchange 4/2½; Shanghai Tugboats at ₹86; North-China Insurances at ₹320 and ₹325. Hongkong Fires at $397½. 390 and 392½, and China Fires at $89½ for 31st July and 93 for 31st January for delivery in Hongkong. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares have changed hands at ₹210, Pootungs at ₹89 and 91 for cash and 93 for 31st August, and Birt's at ₹37½ and 40; Shanghai Waterworks at £20 with exchange 4/2; Hall & Holtz shares at ₹25½, 26½ and 26; Perak Sugars at ₹20, Sheridans at ₹210, Perak Tins at $30, and Selama Tins ($2 paid) at $5.

Exchange has advanced another farthing during the week owing to the same cause as last stated. The business has been moderate in Sterling and small in Rupees. Silver has remained stationary at 42¼. Council Drafts were allotted at 1/4 3/16 Post and 1/4 5/16 a 11/32 T/T., and a special allotment is since reported at 1/4 3/8. Native interest is 2 mace 5 candareens, equal about 9 per cent. per annum

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AUCTION SALES.

Auctions for the week ending 24th May comprised the following Goods :—

	For the week.	Previous week.	Corresponding week last year.
Grey Shirtings.....	16,965 pcs.	against 15,800 pcs.	and 22,650 pcs.
White Shirtings ...	9,658 „	„ 7,780 „	„ 8,850 „
T-Cloths	5,300 „	„ 5,600 „	„ 3,600 „
Drills, English.....	945 „	„ 945 „	„ 430 „
Jeans, „	150 „	„ 150 „	„ 490 „
Sheetings, English	600 „	„ 1,160 „	„ 1,400 „
Turkey Reds	„	„ ..... „	„ ..... „

	For the week.	Previous week.	Corresponding week last year.
Velvets	... .. pcs.	against ..... pcs.	and 30 pcs.
Velveteens	90 „	„ ..... „	„ 60 „
Cotton Yarn.....	..... bales	„ ..... „	„ ..... bls.
Camlets	1,020 pcs.	„ 1,290 „	„ 1,050 pcs.
Long Ells	400 „	„ 640 „	„ 300 „
Lastings	700 „	„ 720 „	„ 760 „
Spanish Stripes ...	516 „	„ 524 „	„ 426 „

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PIECE GOODS.

At *Nie-kie*, 18th inst.

White Shirtings.—194 pieces; *Blue Joss* $2.53/55.
White Irishes.—284 pieces; *Green 2-Man* $2.25 and *Blue* do. $2.36.
Printed T-Cloths.—100 pieces; *Assorted* $0.66/93.
Cotton Prints.—158 pieces; *Assorted* $1.09½/09¾.
Printed Twills.—160 pieces; *Assorted* $1.03/10.
Plain Cotton Lastings.—40 pieces; *Assorted* $1.60.
Striped Cotton Lastings.—90 pieces; *Assorted* $1.50 and $1.97.
Figured Cotton Lastings.—40 pieces; *Assorted* $1.05.
Printed Muslins.—54 pieces; $0.65½.
White Muslins.—37 pieces; $0.45.
Italian Cloth.—40 pieces; *Assorted* $3.25.

At *Takoo*, 21st inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—7lbs.—500 pieces; *Silver Steamboat* $1.21⅜/22.
8.4lbs.—1,000 pieces; *Man Horse and Spear* $1.41½/41⅝.
T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—2,100 pieces; *Man Horse and Spear* M.T. No. 2 $1.17½/17½, do. No. 1 $1.20½/20⅜, *Silver Steamboat* $1.37½/38, and *Silver Dragon* $1.46/46¼
8-lbs.—1,380 pieces; *Man Horse and Spear* M.T. No. 2 $1.26½, do. No. 1 $1.41½/42, *Silver Steamboat* $1.53¼/54½, and *Silver Dragon* $1.68½/69.
Sheetings.—*English*, 14-lbs.—200 pieces; *Man and Elephant* $2.12½.

At *Jin-kee*, same day—

Grey Shirtings.—10-lbs.—100 pieces; *Red Stag* $2.08, (damag-d).
Drills.—*English*, 14-lbs.—105 pieces; *Dragon and Snake* $2.10/12, (damaged).

At *E-teh-lee*, same day.—

Drills, *English*.—270 pieces; *Highlander* GGG $2.11/12.
Velveteens.—26-inch.—90 pieces; *Sin-wo Stag* $0.15.
Cotton Spanish Stripes.—24 pieces; *Scarlet, Stag* $0.19.

At *E-wo*, 22nd inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—5-lb.—500 pieces; *Red Peacock* $0 87⅜/88.
7-lbs.—350 pieces; *Black Tea Caddy* $1.18, and *Red Peacock* $1.18¾.
8.4-lbs.—2,400 pieces; *Blue 2-Duck* $1.53¾/54, *Black Tea Caddy* XX $1.53¾, *Blue 3-Duck* $1.60, *Red Crab* $1.69½/69¾, *Blue Bell* XX $1.79½, *Blue Tea Caddy DDD* $1.82½/82⅞ and *Blue 2-Tea Caddy* $1.99.
10-lbs.—1,250 pieces; *Red Crab* $2.00½/01, *Blue Crab* XX $2.02½/03, *Blue Tea Caddy XX* $2.05, and *Blue Tea Caddy DDD* $2 20¼/20⅜.
11-lbs.—250 pieces; *Blue Bell* XX $2.30½/30⅜.
T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—1,330 pieces; *Red Peacock* $1 01½, *Red Tea Caddy* $1.18½/19, and *Blue Tea Caddy* $1.30/30¼.
8-lbs.—300 pieces; *Red Tea Caddy* $1.29½/29¾.

At *Yuen-fong*, 23rd inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—6-lbs.—500 pieces; *Two Man* $0.99, and *Blue 3-Students* $0.99½
7-lbs.—1,950 pieces; *Blue Britannia* $1.27¾/28, *Blue 4-Sister* $1.36¾/36½, and *Blue 3-Students* $1.42/42¼.
8.4-lbs.—4,275 pieces; *Two Man* $1.36¾/37¼, *House* $1 39¼, *Blue Britannia* $1.44/44½, *Blue 3-Students* $1.57½/57⅝, *Blue Double Shield* $1.64¼/64½, and *Five Brother* $1.82½.
10-lbs.—1,850 pieces; *Red Britannia* $1.99⅜, *Red Emperor's Birthday* $1 99⅜, *Red 3-Students* $2.04¼/04⅜, and *Red 4-Sister* $2.18¼/18⅜.
10.12-lbs.—500 pieces; *Gold Britannia* $2.31½ 32.
11-lbs.—1,000 pieces; *Painted 3-Students* $2.41½.
12-lbs.—540 pieces; *Loo-Loo-Toony* $2.28½, *Soldier* $2.41⅜/42, and *Nine Lions* $2.28½.
White Shirtings.—64-reed, 4,250 pieces; *House* bright $1.48/48¼, and dull $1.44/46, *Blue Double Lighthouse* bright $1.53/53⅜, and dull $1.47/48¼, and *Black and Gold 3-Students* $1.74⅜/75½.
72-reed.—4,930 pieces; *White and Gold 3-Students* $1.92½/92¾, *Red Two-Sister* $1.93½/93¾, *Red Double Lighthouse* bright $1.96, dull $1.95⅜, and *Red and Gold Star* bright $2 13/14½, dull $2.09/10½.
T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—540 pieces; *Red Double Shield* $1.23/23½, and *Red 3-Students* $1.35/35¼.
8-lbs.—650 pieces; *Eagle* XX $1.47½, and *Painted 3 Students* $1.72/72¼.
Drills.—*English*, 14 lbs.—390 pieces; *Black Flag Chief* $1.56¾, *Britannia* $2 45¾/46½, and *Old Man Head* $2.54½/55.
15-lbs.—180 pieces; *Running Deer* $2.12¾/12½.
Sheetings.—*English*, 14-lbs.—400 pieces; *Lion and Cloud* $2.11½/11½, and *Old Man Head* $2.52½/53.
Jeans.—*English*, 8-lbs.—150 pieces; *Two Squirrel* $1 82¾/83¼.

WOOLLENS.

Auctions—	Scarlet.	Dk. Blue.	Dk. Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	White	Purple	Black.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Gt. Mid.	Sales. Pcs.
	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	
NE-KEE, 18th inst.													
S. St'pes, B.T.I., p.yd.	0.43.2/43 3	.....	... ..	0.43 7	.....	...	0.41.9	...	...	0.46¼	...	{0.44 {0 44½	
Sales, pcs....	120	.....	. . ..	6*	.....	...	6	...	...	6*	...	72	210
E-WO, 22nd inst.													
C'lets, 2 Stag, p. pcs.	8 50/52	.....	8.50	8.26	8.30	...	...	...	...	...	8.49	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	50	.....	20	10*	10	...	...	...	...	...	10	...	100
,, Man & Horse	9 34/44	.....	9.60	9.12	9 09	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	40	.....	20	20*	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Long Ells, H.D.B.p.p.	4.90/92	.....	.....	.. ...	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	200	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200
S. S'pes, S'gle Phœnix	0.39.4/39.6	.....	0 41	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	0.41	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	96	.....	72	.....	.....	...	...	...	...	...	12	...	180
YUEN-FONG, 23rd inst.													
Camlets, S.S.G. p.pce.	9.90/97½	9 90/92½	9.90/95	10.25	10.42½	...	9 87½	...	...	...	9.37½/42½	10.00/02½	
Sales, pcs. ...	160	60	100	10*	10	...	10	...	...	...	20	20*	390
,, G.G.M., p.pc.	10 12½	.....	10 00	.....	10.52½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	20	.....	10	.....	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40
,, S.S.H., p.pcs.	9.57½/62½	9.30/35	9.77½/80	.....	9.92½	...	...	...	9.82½	...	9.37½	9.60/67½	
Sales, pcs. ...	160	80	80	.....	10	...	...	...	10	...	20	30*	390
Long Ells, G.G.L., p.p.	5.14/16	6 29	5.41	.....	.....	...	...	5 16	..	...	...	...	
Sales, pcs. ...	140	20	20	.....	.....	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	200
Lastings, G.G.R., p.pc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	8.45/50	...	...	9.05	
Sales, pcs. ..	... ..	.....	.....	.. ..	.....	...	...	...	380	...	..	20*	400
,, F.F.R., p.pc.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	...	...	...	6.77½/80	...	...	7.37½	
Sales, pcs. ...	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	0.47⅜	...	...	280	...	...	20	300
S. S'pes, T.T.B. p. yd.	0.46/46¼	0.46¾	0.46¾	0.48¼	.....	0.45½	...	...	...	...	0.45½	0.49¼/49½	
Sales, pcs. ...	60	12	6	6*	.....	12*	...	...	...	...	6	24	126

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QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.			Duty.
	T.m.c.	T.m.c.	Tls. m. c.
G. K. Grey Shirtings—			
6-lbs 39-in 38½-yds.....nom ₱ pc.	0.8.7½ to	1.0.2	
7-lbs ..... ,, ,,	1.0.5 ,,	1.4.5	
8½ to 8½-lbs..... ,,	1.2.0 ,,	2.0.0	
D. Eagle and XX ..... ,,	1.9.0 ,,	1.9.3	
9 to 9½-lbs .....nom ,,	1.6.5 ,,	1.9.0	
9½ to 10-lbs. ..... ,, ,,	1.8.0 ,,	2.4.0	
Dewhurst's, Best ..... ,,	2.2.2 ,,	.....	
11 to 12-lbs English 36 in.. ,,	2.1.0 ,,	2.6.5	
12-lbs American 32/56 in... ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.6.0	0.0.8 per pce.
G. K. White Shirtings—			
56-rd. 40-yds 36-in ..... ₱ pc.	1.2.5 ,,	1.3.5	
60-reed..... ,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.4.5	
64 ,, ... ,,	1.3.5 ,,	1.8.0	
64 ,, Best and 66-reed ... ,,	1.8.0 ,,	2.0.0	
72 to 80-reed ..... ,,	1.8.0 ,,	2.4.0	
Best ..... ,,	2.1.0 ,,	3.6.0	
Drills, Am. 40-yd 30-in 14-lbs ₱ pc.	2.5.0 ,,	2.8.5	
English, ,, 14 to 15-lbs ... ,,	1.4.0 ,,	2.0.0	0.1.0 ,,
,, Good to Finest ..... ,,	1.9.0 ,,	2.8.5	
Dutch, 14 to 14½-lbs...nom ,,	2.0.0 ,,	2.4.0	
Jeans, Dh., 30-yd. 30in 8½-lbs ₱ pc.	1.5.0 ,,	1.8.0	
English, ,, 8 to 8½-lbs ,,	1.3.0 ,,	1.9.0	0.0.7½ ,,
American ,, Beaver, nom. ,,	1.9.0 ,,	.....	
Sheetings—			
Am., 40yd. 36/38in. 14lb. nom. ₱ pc.	2.2.5 ,,	2.8.5	
Eng., ,, ,, 14 to 16lb. ,,	1.5.0 ,,	2.8.0	0.0.8 ,,
T-Cloths—			
6-lbs 24-yd 32-in Ord., *nom* ₱ pc.	0.7.5 ,,	1.0.5	
7-lbs ,, ,, ,, ,, ... ,,	0.8.5 ,,	1.2.0	
6-lbs Mexican..... ,,	1.0.0 ,,	1.1.0	0.0.4 ,,
7-lbs ,, ... ,,	1.0.0 ,,	1.3.5	
7-lbs Mexican Special chops ,,	1.2.5 ,,	1.7.5	
8 to 8½-lbs..... ,,	1.3.5 ,,	1.9.5	0.0.8 ,,
Better kinds and XX nom, ,,	1.6.5 ,,	2.0.0	
Handkerchiefs—			
Blue, 28 to 32-in .... ₱ doz.	0.3.2½ to	0.5.7½	0.0.2½ per doz.
Brown .....nom ,,	0.3.6 ,,	0.4.0	
Spotted Shirtings—White. ₱ pc.	1.8.0 ,,	2.0.0	0.1.0 per pce.
Dyed, nom ,,	2.0.0 ,,	2.4.5	0.1.5 ,,
Brocades—White, 40-yd ... ,,	1.8.5 ,,	2.0.0	0.1.0 ,,
Dyed ..... ,,	2.2.0 ,,	2.4.5	0.1.5 ,,
Damasks—Dyed, 40-yd, nom ,,	2.2.5 ,,	3.5.0	0.2.0 ,,
Gentian Shirtings .....nom ,,	1.8.5 ,,	2.2.0	0.1.5 ,,
Chintz—Assorted 28in. 28yds. ₱ pc.	0.8.0 ,,	1.4.0	
Blue ..... ,,	0.9.5 ,,	1.1.5	0.0.7 per pce.
Brown.....nom ,,	0.9.5 ,,	1.1.2	
Scarlet .... ,,	1.0.0 ,,	1.2.5	

QUOTATIONS—Duty Paid.			Duty.
	T.m.c.	T.m.c.	Tls. m. c.
Printed Twills—24/25 yds ₱ pc.	1.1.5 to	1.6.0	
50/52 ,, ,,	2.5.0 ,,	3.1.5	0.0.7 per 30 yd.
Special ... ,,	3.5.0 ,,	3.8.0	
Turkey Reds—			
24-yd 1½ to 3-lbs. 32-in, nom ₱ pc.	0.6.0 ,,	1.3.5	
Best ..... ,,	1.4.5 ,,	2.5.0	0.1.5 per pce.
Velvets—Black, 22-in...nom ₱ yd.	0.1.0 ,,	0.1.5	0.1.8 per pce.
Velvetrens—Black, 18-in ... ,,	0.1.0 ,,	0.1.5	
26-in ... ,,	0.1.8 ,,	0.1.8	0.1.5 ,,
Blue Denims .....nom ,,	0.0.3 ,,	0.0.4	5 per cent. ad. val.
Dimities—12-yd 37-in..... ₱ pc.	0.9.0 ,,	1.2.0	
41-in..... ... ,,	1.0.0 ,,	1.6.0	0.0.6½ per pce.
Muslins—12-yd 42-in ..... ,,	0.4.5 ,,	0.6.0	0.0.3½ ,,
Yarn—Cotton—Nos. 28/32. ,,	75.0.0 ,,	80.0.0	
,, Bombay 16/20, ,,	54.0.0 ,,	63.0.0	0.7.0 per pcl
Camlets—English, SS Scarlet ₱ pc	8.5.0 ,,	10.0.0	
GG ,, ,,	10.2.0 ,,	10.2.5	
SSG ,, ,,	9.9.0 ,,	10.0.0	
HDB nom. ,,	... .. ,,	.....	0.0.5
CPH ,, ,,	..... ,,	.....	
Dutch, 33 to 2 4-in nom. ,,	15.0.0 ,,	18.0.0	
Do. 37-in..... ,, ,,	7.2.5 ,,	23.0.0	
Medium & Broad Cloths .. ₱ yd.	0.4.5 ,,	1.4.0	
Spanish Stripes, Assorted... ,,	0.3.0 ,,	0.5.5	
,, HH ,, ,,	0.5.1 ,,	.....	
,, HDB Sc'let, ,,	..... ,,	.....	0.1.2
,, TTB ,, ,,	0.4.6 ,,	0.4.6½	
,, BTI ,, ,,	0.4.3 ,,	.....	
,, CPH ,,nom. ,,	0.4.2½ ,,	0.4.3	
Long Ells—			
Scarlet, 24-yd GG..... ₱ pc.	5.1.0 ,,	5.1.5	
,, ,, HH ..... ,,	5.2.0 ,,	5.3.0	
,, ,, CPH nom. ,,	4.9.5 ,,	5.0.0	
,, ,, UU ..... ,,	5.1.0 ,,	... .	
,, ,, HDB..... ,,	4.7 7½ ,,	4.8.0	
,, ,, V ..... ,,	5.0.2½ ,,	.....	
,, ,, Dove...nom. ,,	5.0.2½ ,,	.....	0.0.4½
,, ,, Sundries ,, ,,	3.5.0 ,,	5.4.0	
Assorted, HH ..... ,,	nom. ,,	.....	
,, CPH ..... ,,	,, ,,	.....	
,, GG..... ,,	,, ,,	.....	
,, UU ..... ,,	,, ,,	.....	
Lastings, 30-yd ..... ₱ pc.	5.0.0 ,,	9.3.0	
Crape Lastings, 30-yd *nom* ,,	2.7.5 ,,	6.5.0	0.0.5
Crape Lustres .... ,,	,, ,,	.....	
Plain Lustres, Black..... ,,	2.7.5 ,,	3.4.0	
Orleans—Figured, 30-yd ... ,,	2.1.0 ,,	2.7.5	0.2.0 per pcl.
‖ Special Colors & Patterns ,,	2.5.0 ,,	3.3.0	

Per Chany of 141 inches.

METALS.	Quotations.	
	T.m.c.	T.m.c
Japan Copper—Ore and Tiles,..... ...per picul	14.0.0 @	15.0.0
Tin Plates—Parson's and I. C. Coke. per box	3.9.0 ,,	4.0.0
Decorated ..... ,,	5.5.0 ,,	7.0.0
Steel, Bamboo..... ..... per picul	3.5.2½ ,,	3.5.7½
Tin, Fok Chok ..... ,,	27.8.0 ,,	.....
Sowkong ..... ,,	26.8.0 ,,	26.8.0
Spelter, W. H. Remelted .... ,,	5.5.0 ,,	6.0.0
Hard .... ,,	4.0.0 ,,	4.5.0
Pig Iron, Gartsherrie No. 1 ....per ton	22.5.0 ,,	23.0.0
,, No. 3 ..... ,,	20.5.0 ,,	21.0.0
Common brands..... .... ,,	18.0.0 ,,	19.5.0
Iron Wire, Nos. 11 *a* 21 ... .per picul	4.0.0 ,,	4.1.0
,, ,, 14 *a* 25 ..... ,,	4.2.0 ,,	4.3.0
,, ,, 18 *a* 25 .... ,,	4.0.5 ,,	4.2.0
Iron—Nail Rod—		
Dawes' Best .... ,,	2.3.7½ ,,	2.4.0
Staffordshire ..... ,,	2.2.5 ,,	2.3.0
Scotch .... ,,	2.3.5 ,,	2.4.0
Belgian .. .. ,,	2.0.5 ,,	2.0.7½
,, Sohiers .... ,,	2.1.5 ,,	2.2.0
English—Bar..... ,,	2.1.0 ,,	2.2.0
Belgian ,, ... ,,	1.8.5 ,,	2.0.5
Swedish ,, ... ,,	2.7.0 ,,	2.9.0
Lead—		
LR .... ,,	4.5.0 ,,	4.5.5
Enthoven and Other brands ... ,,	4.4.5 ,,	4.5.0
Zinc Sheating, No. 4 to 12 .. .. ,,	6.5.0 ,,	7.0.0
White Metal, (German Silver) ..... ,,	40.0.0 ,,	47.0.0
Nickel—Cube ..... ,,	60.0.0 ,,	82.0.0

SUNDRIES.	Quotations.	
	T.m.c.	T.m.c.
Sugar—		
White, Canton, No. 1 .....per picul	4.8.0 @	4.9.0
,, ,, ,, 2 ..... ,,	4.5.0 ,,	4.7.0
,, ,, ,, 3 ..... ,,	4.0.0 ,,	4.2.0
White, Swatow, No. 1 ..... ,,	4.9.0 ,,	5.0.0
,, ,, ,, 2 ..... ,,	4.6.0 ,,	4.8.0
,, ,, ,, 3 ..... ,,	4.1.0 ,,	4.3.0
Brown, Canton, Best..... ..... ,,	3.0.0 ,,	3.1.0
,, ,, Common..... ..... ,,	2.6.0 ,,	2.8.0
,, Swatow, Best..... ,,	3.1.0 ,,	3.3.0
,, ,, Common..... ..... ,,	2.7.0 ,,	2.9.0
Pepper- Black .... ,,	16.8.0 ,,	17.3.0
White .. .. ,,	26.5.0 ,,	27.5.0
Rattans- Common .... ,,	3.3.0 ,,	3.6.0
Best .. .. ,,	3.7.0 ,,	4.2.0
Sapan Wood.....per picul	2.8.0 ,,	3.1.0
Sandalwood, South Sea .... ,,	4.8.0 ,,	5.5.0
Timor .... ,,	7.0.0 ,,	7.5.0
Malabar .... ,,	17.0.0 ,,	18.0.0
Window Glass-		
Good assortments ....per box	2.5.0 ,,	2.5.5
Matches—		
Swedish Safety, Red and Black Dip..per case	10.0.0 ,,	16.0.0
Phosphor .... ,,	12.0.0 ,,	13.5.0
Paraffine .... ,,	13.0.0 ,,	15.0.0
Japanese and Shanghai..... ,,	8.0.0 ,,	10.5.0
Vienna Brilliant .....p. 25 gross	16.7.5 ,,	19.0.0
Kerosene—Devoe's .....per case	1.6.5 ,,	.....
Flint Stones .... per picul	0.6.5 ,,	0.7.2
Cotton—Shanghai, best..... ..... ,,	9.6.0 ,,	.....
Compook ,, ... ,,	9.8.0 ,,	.....
Rice—Shanghai ....p. 150 cat.	2.9.0 ,,	3.3.0
Chinkiang..... ..... ,,	2.3.0 ,,	2.5.0
Hides—Cow .... per picul	12.5.0 ,,	13.5.0

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COMMERCIAL POSTSCRIPT.

25th May, 1889.

Exchange.—On London—Telegraphic Transfer, 4s. 2⅜d. Bank Bills, demand, 4s. 2½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 3d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 4s. 3⅜d.; 6 months' sight, 4s. 3⅝d. Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 4s. 3¼d.; 6 months' sight, 4s. 3⅛d. On Paris—Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 5.41; 6 months' sight, 5.44. On New York—Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 95¼. On Hongkong—Bank demand, 27⅜%. On Bombay—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 308; Calcutta, Rs. 308. Bullion—Gold Bar, Peking 978 touch, ₹230 75. Bar Silver, 111.20. Mexican Dollars, ₹74 5. Copper Cash, 1,410. Native Interest, mace 0.3.2.

SHARES.

Banks.—*Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.*—Cash shares have been sold at 168 and 171 per cent. premium. They are in demand at the higher rate. *New Oriental Bank Corporation, Ld.*—Scrip has been sold at £10¼ and exchange 4/2, and Gold Warrants at £10¾ and exchange 4/2½.

Shipping.—A number of *Tug Boat* shares have changed hands at ₹86. *Indo-Chinas* are wanted.

Gas.—*Shanghai* shares are wanted at ₹195, and *Compagnie du Gaz* shares at ₹150. Both are held for higher rates.

Marine Insurance.—*China Traders'* are offering at $81½. *North Chinas* have been placed at ₹320 and ₹325. *Unions* are offering at $105.

Fire Insurance.—Business has been done in *Hongkongs* at $397½, $390 and $392½, and are obtainable at the closing rate. *Chinas* have been placed to Hongkong at $89½ for 31st July, and $93 for 31st January. There are sellers at these rates. We quote $86 as the closing cash rate.

Wharfs.—Business has been done in *Shanghai and Hongkew* shares at ₹210, in *Birt's* at ₹37½ to ₹41, and in *Pootungs* at ₹89 to ₹91½.

Mining.—*Sheridans* have changed hands, and are wanted, at ₹210 and ₹215. *Peraks* have been placed at $30. The liquidators of the Perak Tin Mining Co. have arranged for the sale of the Company's property to a syndicate in Hongkong, who have formed a new Company, called the Selama Tin Mining Co., Ld., with a capital of $700,000 in shares of $5 each, of which $2 are paid up. The shareholders in the Perak Co. will receive 4 fully paid up shares in the new Company, for each share in the old company. A meeting of shareholders in the old company has been called for the 30th current, to confirm this agreement. *Selama* shares, $2 paid up, have been sold at $5.

Cargo Boats.—*Shanghais* are offering at ₹172½.

Miscellaneous.—*Shanghai Waterworks* shares have been placed at £29 and exchange 4/2, *Perak Sugar Cultivation* shares at ₹20, *Hall & Holtz Co-operative* shares at ₹25½, ₹26½, and ₹26, and shares in *J. Llewellyn & Co.* at $117½.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	Position per Last Report. Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	Last Dividend, &c. To Shareholders.	When pd. or due.	Cash Quotations. Closing.	
Banks.										Taels.
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co	60,000	$125	$125	$4,300,000	$59,874 67	31 Dec. 88	* £1½	25 Feb. 89	171 % pr.	247.29
New Oriental Bank Corp., Ld.	54,700	£10	£10	£115,002.7.2	.....	31 Mar. 87	* 3 %	22 Feb. 89	£10¾	51.09
Shipping.										
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ld. ...	1,000	₹100	₹100	.....	₹2,488.76	31 Dec. 88	‖ 3 %	11 Jan. 89	...	86
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co. ..	49,589	£10	£10	£30,000.0.0	£1,922.8.9	31 Dec. 87	† 5 %	23 July 88	...	39.50
Shanghai Shipping Co.....	150	₹1,000	₹1,000	.....	‡₹43,500.00	31 Dec. 88	* 6 %	12 Feb. 89	...	400
China Shippers' Mutual S.N.Co.	7,662	£20	£13	£33,425.9.10	£2,826.10.6	31 Dec. 87	† 6 %	4 June 87	£13	63.03
Taku Tug and Lighter Co.	2,500	₹100	₹100	₹20,000.00	₹23,582.97	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	28 Feb. 88	...	150
Docks.										
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	₹500	₹500	₹18,000	₹157 21	31 Dec. 88	* 2½ %	17 Jan. 89	...	340
Pootung Dock Co.	950	₹100	₹100	.....	‡₹12,458 70	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	14 Jan. 88	...	76
Gas.										
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	₹100	₹100	₹67,000	₹1,281.47	31 Dec. 87	* 6 %	10 Jan. 89	...	195
Compagnie du Gaz	500	₹100	₹100	₹19,647.18	₹89 90	31 Dec. 88	* 6 %	1 Mar. 89	...	150
Insurance (Marine.)										
China Traders' Insurance Co., Limited.....	24,000	$83.33	$25	$650,000.00	$261,119.25	30 Apl. 88	20 %	4 Sept. 88	$81.50	59.50
North-China Ins. Co., Ld.....	5,000	£200	£50	₹320,000.00	₹257,780.36	31 Dec. 88	† ₹26.83	27 Apl. 89	...	325
Union In. Society of Canton Ld.	10,000	$250	$25	$696,500.00	$484,923.17	30 June 88	† 20 %	17 Oct. 88	$102.50	74.82
Yangtsze Insurance Ass'tion Ld.	8,000	£25	£25	₹139,610.62	.....	3 Apr. 89	* 3½ %	18 Jan. 89	...	100
Chinese Insurance Co., Limited	1,500	$1,000	$200	$28,711.50	$15,285.84	31 Dec. 87	* 3 %	2 Apl. 88	$160	126.80
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	$250	$50	$304,000.00	$487,321.48	30 Sep. 88	† 10 %	8 Jan. 89	$120	87 60
Straits Insurance Co., Limited..	30,000	$100	$20	$115,000	$113,000.00	31 Dec. 88	* 5 %	18 April 89	$20	14 60
Insurance (Fire.)										
Hongkong Fire In. Co., Limited	8,000	$250	$50	$1,031,486	$326,787 88	31 Dec. 88	† 33 %	4 Mar. 89	$392.50	286.52
China Fire In. Co., Limited ..	20,000	$100	$20	$650,000.0	$163,443.29	31 Dec. 88	† 30 %	3 Mar. 87	$86	62.78
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ld..	20,000	$100	$20	$13,000.00	$54,215.25	31 Dec. 88	† 8 %	1 Mar. 89	$19	13.87
Singapore Insurance Co., Ld....	29,176	$100	$20	$11,875.91	$132,107 27	31 Dec. 88	† 7½ %	27 Apl. 89	$16.50	12.05
Wharfs.										
Shanghai & Hkew Wharf Co...	2,867	₹100	₹100	₹87,589.75	₹1,786.71	31 Dec. 88	* 7 %	27 Feb. 89	...	210
Birt's Wharf Hide-Curing and Wool-Cleaning Company ...	2,100	₹50	₹50	₹3,449.46	‡₹844.31	31 Oct. 87	* 3½ %	30 Nov. 88	...	41
Pootung Wharf & Godown Co..	2,300	₹100	₹100	₹12,000	₹1,949.08	31 Dec. 88	† 4 %	6 Feb. 89	...	91.50
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Limited...	17,000	$100	$100	.....	$2,755.25	31 Dec. 88	† 5 %	6 Mar. 89	$195	128.35
Mining.										
Perak Tin Mining & Smelting Co.	5,000	$50	$50	.....	‡₹3,543 63	31 Dec. 87	None.		$30	21.90
Sheridan Mining Co.....	2,800	₹100	₹100	₹29,125.85	.....	31 Jan. 89	‖ ₹5	23 Apl. 89	...	215
Mendota Mining Co.....	3,000	₹100	₹100	₹26,107 90	.....	31 Jan. 89	₹3	31 Dec. 87	...	205
Selama Tin Mining C., Ld.....	140,000	$5	$2	.....	.....	.....	First	year.	$5	3.65
Cargo Boats.										
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.....	1,000	₹200	₹200	₹3,003 47	₹2,834.25	31 Dec. 88	* 4 %	5 Mar. 89	...	172.50
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. ...	1,000	₹100	₹100	₹2,000.00	₹1,781.79	31 Dec. 88	† 3 %	28 Feb. 89	...	53.50
Miscellaneous										
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld..	6,000	£20	£20	£5,000.00	£1,304.9.10	31 Dec. 87	† 7 %	12 Mar. 89	£29	139.20
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld., New Shares	1,200	£20	£15	.....	.....	.....	† 7 %	12 Mar. 89	£23	110.40
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ld.	5,000	$50	$50	.....	‡₹12,333.69	31 Dec. 88	None.		...	20
Hall & Holtz Co-op'tive Co., Ld.	6,000	$50	$50	.....	₹15,000.00	3 Feb. 89	₹2½	1 May 88	...	26
Japan Brewery Co., Ld.	667	$100	$100	.....	$4,247.63	31 Dec. 88	.....	.....	$125	91.25
New Shanghai Electric Co., Ld.	300	₹100	₹100	.....	.....	.....	First	year.	...	100
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ld...	20,000	$50	$20	.....	.....	.....	do.		...	20
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.	1,200	$100	$100	.....	.....	.....	do.		$117.50	87.83

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.	
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1882	₹ 60,000.00	₹ 20,000.00	₹ 100	7 %	Dec. & June.	...	₹102 nom.
Do. 1883	₹ 45,000.00	₹ 45,000.00	₹ 100	7 %	Do.	...	₹105 ,,
Do. 1885	₹ 30,000.00	₹ 30,000.00	₹ 100	7 %	Do.	...	₹105 ,,
Do. 1888	₹ 70,000.00	₹ 70,000.00	₹ 100	6 %	Do.	...	₹103 ,,
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures	£ 300,000	£ 238,000	£ 100	7 %	Quarterly	£106 (a)	₹512.64
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1884	$1,394,700.14	$ 976,290.10	$ 500	8 %	30th June.	$515 (a)	₹375.95
Do. do. 1884	$1,594,700.14	$1,315,760.11	$ 500	8 %	15th Oct.	$515 (a)	₹375.95
Do. do. 1886	£. ₹ 767,200.00	₹751,200.00	₹ 250	7 %	Mar. & Sept.	...	₹287½ (a)

*For half-year. ‖ For quarter year. † For year. ‡ A deficit. § Reserve for equalization of dividends. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

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